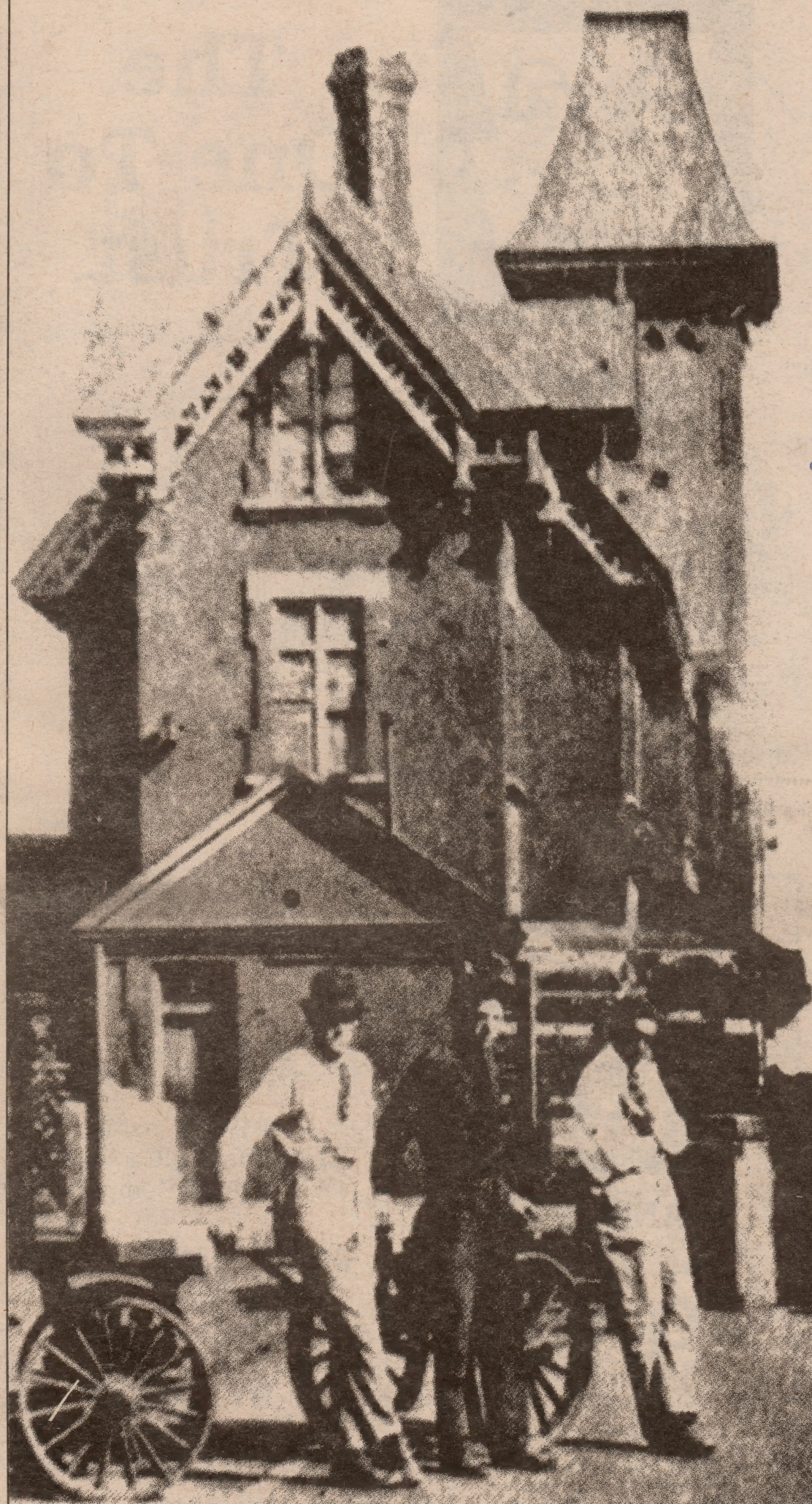


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August 18, 19 & 20



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YPSITUCKY

They came from down South to work in the bomber plant and they've made their mark.



Page 12

THE COLD SHOULDER

Concerned by the changes rapid progress brought in the 1940s, the city was cool to newcomers.



Page 26

The Mayor

For some 50 men and one woman, the desire to mold the city led to this title.



Page 27

PILLAR OF STRENGTH

Ypsi's black community uses the church for more than worship.

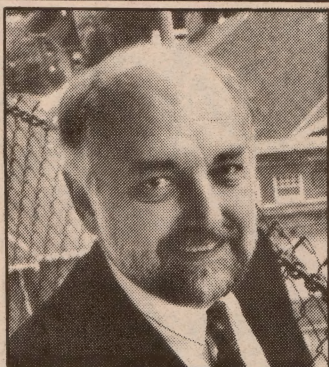
Page 28



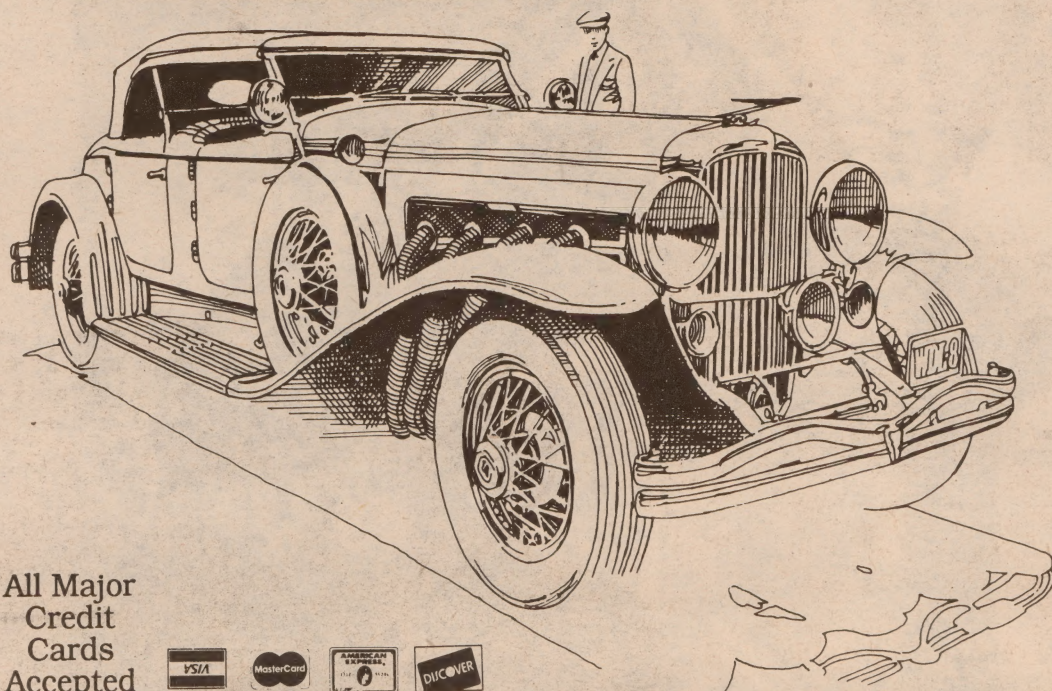
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Page 54



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Industrialists made Ypsilanti a factory community. Is it still a smokestack town or an area trying to shake its...

BLUE COLLAR IMAGE?

By JUDSON BRANAM
Press Staff Writer

Though the Ypsilanti area still carries vestiges of the "shot-and-a-beer town" image that has accompanied its industrial history, leaders say its reality is moving from a blue-collar past to a white-collar future.

"I think Ypsilanti's come a long way over the years," said Ypsilanti Mayor Clyde King. "There's a lot of pride here."

King said that pride shows itself in many ways, including the way Ypsilantians tell where they're from.

"A few years back," King said, "people would say they were from outside of Ann Arbor or a little ways from Detroit — now they say they're from Ypsilanti outright. It's a big change."

Though the blue collar image is "kind of the way people look at us," King said, "we have a very diversified community."

"You used to have a lot of factories and a lot of people working in them," he said, "but now more people are professional employees, so to speak."

Even within the plants, "the blue collar's turning more white and the white collar's turning more blue," said Ypsilanti Township Supervisor Wes Prater. "It's becoming more integrated, and it's going to have to in order to survive."

Along with changes in industry, a turnaround in the area's residents has helped reduce negative images, said local attorney Henry Ritchie.

"What had happened for about 10 years was that our population had vacated, and housing values went down. Then they unloaded the psychiatric homes into Ypsilanti, and it damn near destroyed us."

(See IMAGE, PAGE 18)



Photo submitted by Roger Katon.

Conductor Aretas Bedell shakes hands with Thomas Edison as Henry Ford looks on at the Ypsilanti rail depot.

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Outsiders may have different perceptions. But here's what the locals say about...

OUR TOWN

By JUDSON BRANAM
Press Staff Writer

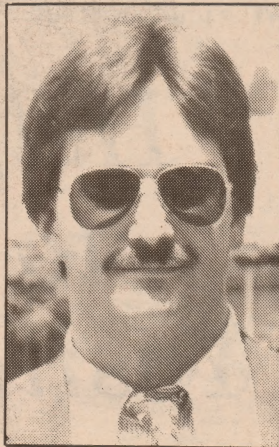
While their city's image, like beauty, is a matter of individual taste, Ypsilanti residents think highly of their city, but they are not so sure it enjoys a strong reputation elsewhere.

During a recent stroll down Michigan Avenue, perceptions of Ypsilanti's image differed, though residents were unanimous in their support of their community.

Local attorney Jim Fett, who works downtown, said "public perception, I would say, is mixed — on the one hand, you do have some headline stories about crime and problems in the south end, and on the other hand you have positives like the College of Business and the Radisson going up.

"If you had to make a judgment one way or the other," Fett said, "I'd say you'd lean to the positive side, and that's because of what's happened in the last year and a half."

Fett, who said he has seen remarkable changes in the city since returning here in late 1987, said "I'm really happy about it. I just think the business leaders and the community leaders are committed to a change in the image, which frankly hasn't been the greatest in the past 15 years or so.



FETT

"It's a positive trend, is the best way to describe it."

Positive is the way Sharon Ryles of Ypsilanti Township views both the public image and reality of this area.

"I like living here," Ryles said. "I think the image has improved a lot in the 17 years I've been here."

Ryles, an employee of the Willow Run Public Schools, said she's found that people outside the community "often think we're smaller than what we are.

"I think they feel the public schools are good, including Willow Run and Ypsilanti schools," she said, adding that "I've heard very positive things about Ypsilanti — people who come here to visit and find out what it's really like seem to like it."

But visit may be all they want to do, said lifelong Ypsilanti resident Harold Cook.

"It seems like there ain't too many things that have changed," said Cook, adding that "we often have visitors come to (Main Street restaurant) where I work, and most of the people who are in from out of town say they like coming here — just to visit, not to live."

Attracting new residents to Ypsilanti is a full-time job for Clark Brown, a partner at Ehman and Greenstreet Real Estate. Brown said images of problems a decade ago sometimes obscure people's view of the area's recent improvement.

"Different people have different perceptions of Ypsilanti," Brown said. "We obviously had our problems 10 years ago, and there's a certain percentage of people who won't let us live that down.



COOK

(See LOCALS, Page 9)



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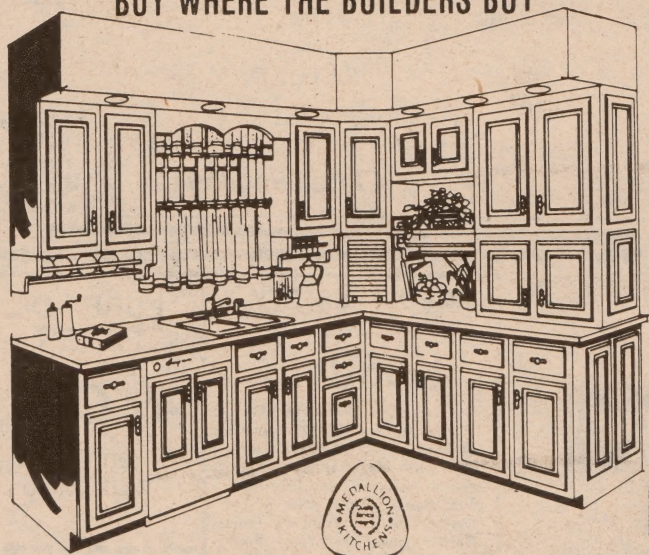


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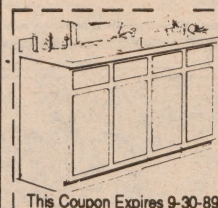
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This photo shows Ypsilantians gathering on East Michigan Avenue in preparation for the 1918 Fourth of July parade. The photo was submitted by V. Lois Wells of Ypsilanti.

Helping you to picture Ypsilanti's past

The Ypsilanti Press publishes its Heritage section each year to recall and celebrate the Ypsilanti area's rich history.

But sometimes stories from the past don't quite jostle the memories of those old enough to have seen Ypsilanti age and grow, and don't quite bring the past to life for those who are too young to have seen it first hand.

So, this year, the Ypsilanti Press asked its readers to help bring Ypsi's heritage into clear view. The paper asked readers to lend it photos of historic people, places and events from at least 50 years ago.

Those photos — like the one above — can now be found sprinkled among the pages of this section along with brief descriptions of the people pictured and their circumstances. We also happily give credit to those who were gracious enough to share their own personal histories with you.

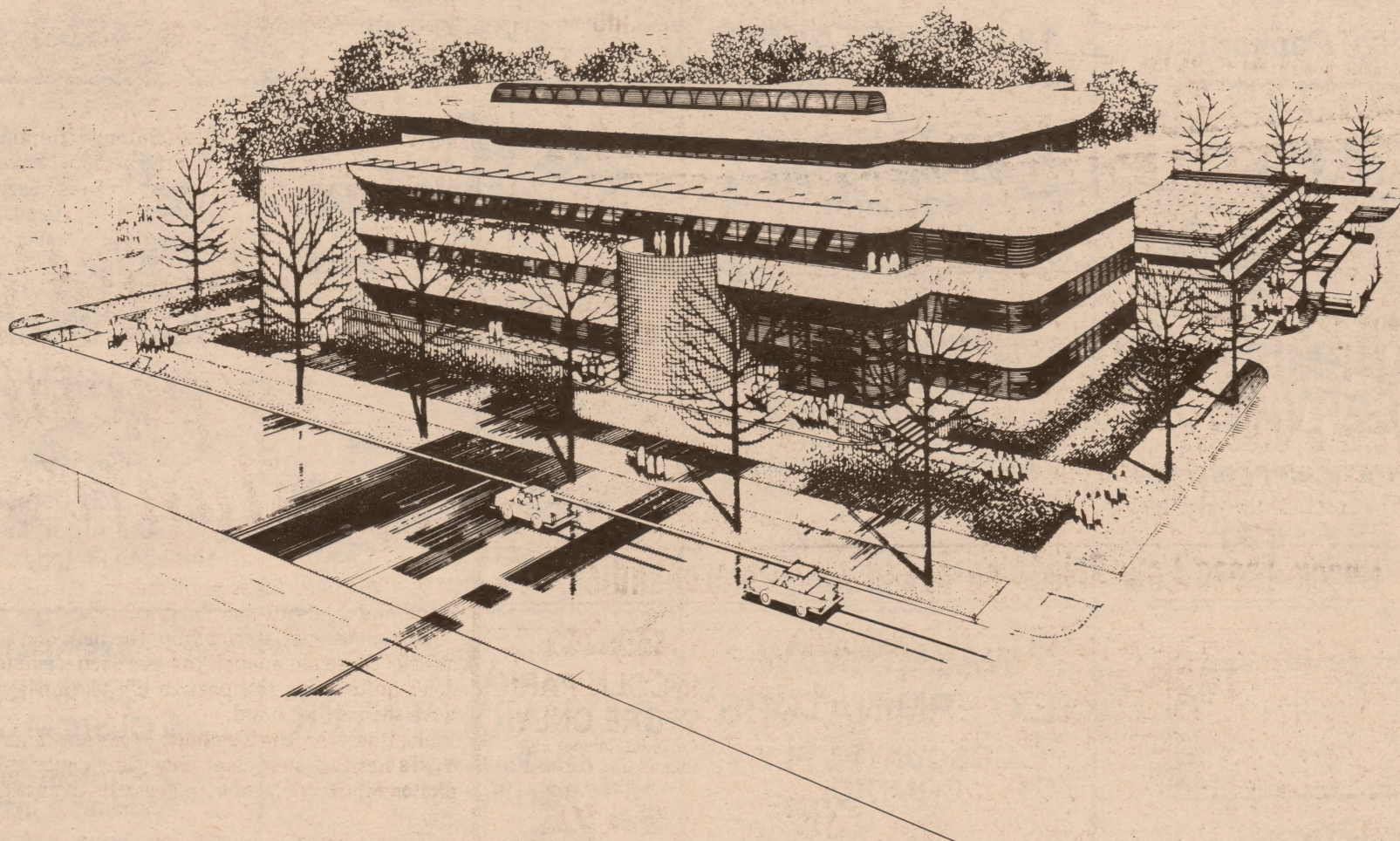
You can identify the historic photos by the distinctive typeface of the headlines, which match the headline that accompanies this story.

Who's buckling up where in Michigan (FRONT SEAT)

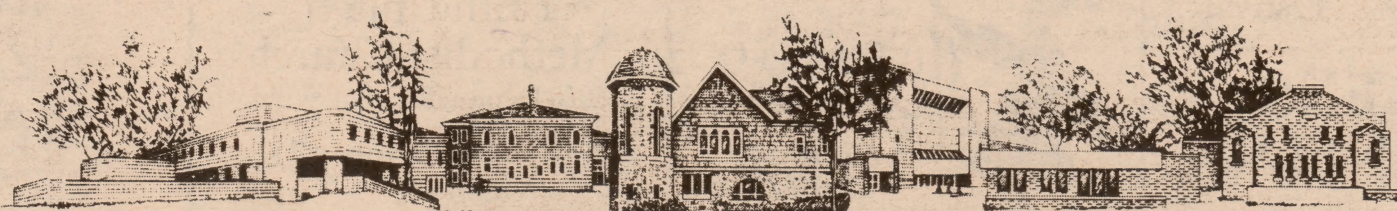
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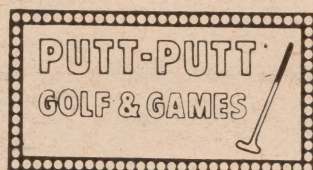


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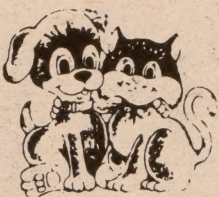
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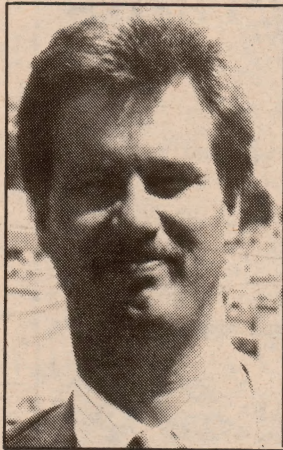
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Locals

(Continued from Page 5)



BROWN

"It's kind of like we still live in grass huts, (but) if they would come over and take a look at what's going on, I think they would be interested."

"Ypsilanti's got a lot to offer — look at (Riverside) park down here, or the College of Business or the Radisson — people won't get over what was going on 10 years ago — street people, crime and a number of things that downgraded the community."

Brown acknowledged that "we still have our problems — but so do Ann Arbor and Belleville and all the outlying communities."

He lamented the pigeon-holing of Ypsilanti as a high-crime, low-rent district by some in more affluent sections of the county, saying "it's too bad that there's other forces out there that keep the attitude and the impression of Ypsilanti down instead of letting it come up to where the city is today."

"I'm not anti-Ann Arbor," he added, "but I think people need to start realizing what we've got going in Ypsilanti."

South Grove Street resident Johnnie Magbrey said she views Ypsilanti as a fairly common community — "I've seen worse, and I've seen better."

From discussions with visitors to the town, she said "the ones that don't live here say they wouldn't live here. I guess it's too small a town or something, they don't ever say why."

Though outsiders "sometimes mention some of the neighborhoods, like that's not (a problem) everywhere," Magbrey said "I think everybody has a crime problem."

In her opinion, talk like that gives the city a "bad rap" in terms of its image, but Magbrey said "I don't know what to tell you" to change it.

Others said they pay little attention to such nebulous considerations as image.



MAGBREY

Rita Carter, a South Huron Street resident, said "I've been here for God knows how long, and I never paid any attention" to the area's image.

From her own observations, "I think Ypsilanti has come a long ways — it's improved its image. Depot Town has picked up a whole lot from what it used to be. To me, Ypsilanti's a safer place to be now."

Carter said "the only things I've heard about Ypsilanti is about the south side of town, where the drugs are, and South Grove, where the prostitutes are. But the Ypsilanti Police have been clearing that up real good."



CARTER

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Area was melting pot for many immigrants

By **RON LEUTY**
 Press Staff Writer

Mickey Hern remembers little about his native Czechoslovakia, except the family and friends he left behind — the family and friends who were gassed in Auschwitz.

Fifty-two years after he left his homeland, Hern considers himself "very American," very lucky and very much a part of Ypsilanti.

Hern, owner of Beverly Furniture Co. at Holmes Road and Midway Street in Ypsilanti Township, was 12 when he travelled across the Atlantic Ocean to go to live with his aunt and uncle in Highland Park.

It wasn't until he returned to Europe as an American soldier during World War II that he discovered that his family and friends — nearly every Jew in the village of Poroskov — were killed in the German-run concentration camp. One teenage girl survived to tell Hern what had happened.

"My convictions are stronger than ever," said Hern, 65. "No Hitler will tell me what I can and can not do."

His late wife also survived the Holocaust.

"God bless America. That's the way I feel," said Hern. "This is the only country if you're willing to go ahead and work, you'll succeed."

Said Hern, whose two sons have a dentistry practice in the township: "Our family kind of got intertwined into Ypsilanti. I am very delighted with Ypsilanti. It has been good to me, I have no complaints."

Beverly Furniture (named for Hern's daughter) recently celebrated its 39th year in business.

Hern is one of the many people who have left "the old country" eventually to settle in a city in Michigan with a strange Greek name — a melting pot for economic, political and educational opportunities.

"The name is a little difficult," said Ronen Bose, a graduate student at Eastern Michigan University and president of the International Student Association. "The moment you say you're going to Michigan, though, it's associated with something great."

Bose, 25, came to Ypsilanti from Calcutta, India, in 1987. He is studying for his master's degree in business administration.

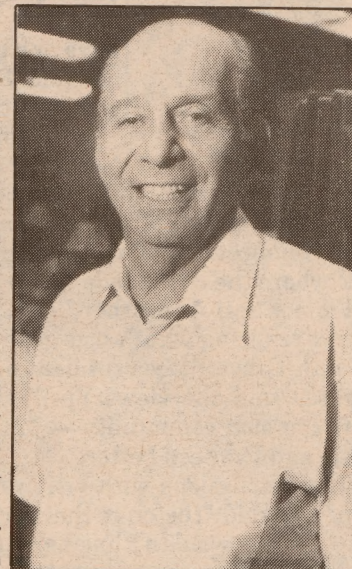
"Basically, Americans are very open and it's easy for us to adjust," Bose said for the 1,200 or so foreign students at the university. "They give them a lot of help and Ypsilanti gives them help."

Jim Garmo, now co-owner of Galaxy Food Super Store on Ecorse Road, studied architecture upon his coming to the Detroit area from Baghdad, Iraq. But one year at Lawrence Institute of Technology, combined with a heavy workload at his uncle's Detroit grocery store convinced him that he couldn't work while going to school.

"He wanted me to help him out instead of going to college," recalled Garmo, vice president of operations for the store, which does about \$4.5 million in sales per year. "He knew he was going to make me fall in love with this business. He put me in each department of the store so I would learn everything about the business, all the ins and outs."

All of Garmo's aunts and uncles lived in the Detroit area. One of the uncles is a bishop in the Detroit Catholic church. Garmo's father and mother, six sisters and three brothers followed him to America.

"There's total freedom," he said about the America's advantages over Iraq. "You can practice whatever is on your mind without anybody's interference."



HERN

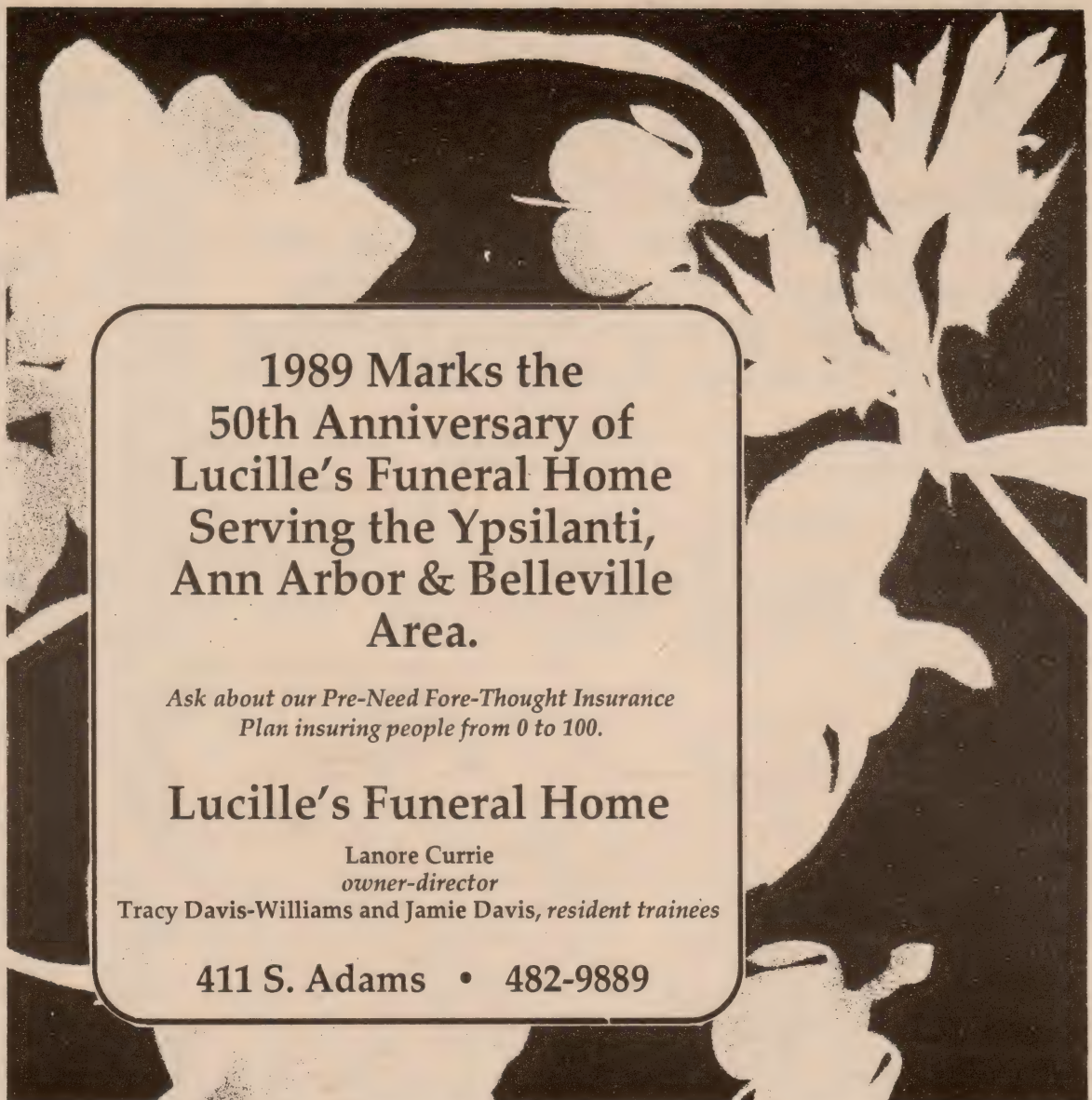


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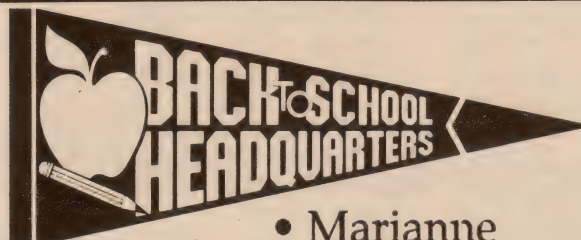
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YPSITUCKY

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They learned readin', rightin', roads to the north,
To the luxury and comfort a coal miner can't afford.'*
Singer Dwight Yoakam, from "Route 23"

By JUDSON BRANAM
Press Staff Writer

One of those factory cities was Ypsilanti. The mass exodus from the mountains to the assembly lines here spawned the nickname "Ypsitucky" and a permanent change in the area's makeup.

The move north, from places like Maytown, Wallins Creek, Prestonsburg and Bonanza, was made by people in search of a better life, fleeing eastern Kentucky's stagnant, coal-based economy.

"Some of these people had never been 10 miles from home, so it was a strange new beginning for them," said Bobbie Sue Williams, secretary of the 500-member Kentuckians in Michigan Inc. Though the adjustment to a new home may have had its exotic moments, the impetus for the move was simple. "I heard one man asked why he came up from Kentucky," Williams said. "He said, 'I was hungry.'"

Some, like Ypsilanti Township Personnel Director Dick Branham, came on buses, while others, such as township Park Commissioner Jimmie Maggard, hitchhiked. A few, like builder Russell Anderson, drove up in new cars bought with money earned in Kentucky coal mines.

"Ford's what brought people up here from the South," said Branham, who said he first headed north in 1942, after seeing newspaper advertisements in Kentucky seeking workers for Ford's Willow Run Bomber Plant. Branham, who served nine years on the Willow Run School board and 10 as township trustee before taking the personnel/purchasing director position he still holds, recalled earning \$100 a week in area auto plants at a time when coal mining paid \$3 a day.

The jobs meant more than their location, said former township supervisor and county commissioner Bill Winters. Winters said he arrived in Monroe in 1947 simply because his ride stopped there. The next year, he came to Ypsilanti.

"I was not dead-set on coming to Ypsilanti, or Monroe," Winters said. "If the ride had been going to Chicago, I might well have ended up in Chicago. I'd never heard of Ypsilanti when I left Kentucky — I was just looking for a place to work."

After the rush of workers to the Willow Run Bomber Plant in the early 1940s, Branham said arriving Kentuckians found that "just about everybody ...

were southerners, so you didn't have too much adjusting to do."

Numbers brought clout

The area, however, did have some adjusting to do — especially to southern leadership of Ypsilanti Township government.

Traditionally, "There wasn't a chance in the world of getting a Democrat elected" in the township, said Chester Wilson, purchasing director for the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority. "That's why we went back to our roots and said, 'Hey, the way to beat this thing's to beat on the doors.'"

Wilson remembered when he and six other Willow Run Village residents "made our signs by hand in our houses," then "we registered people to vote and hauled 'em to vote, and babysat their kids while they went to vote."

The local activism was nothing new to many of the southern natives. In Kentucky politics, "they go all out," Branham said. "Even in school board elections, they have whole page newspaper ads and everything. You'd think they were running for governor."

Branham remembered that after Willow Run Village residents registered as voters, "a majority of the people were southern people, so it was very easy for them to get a foothold."

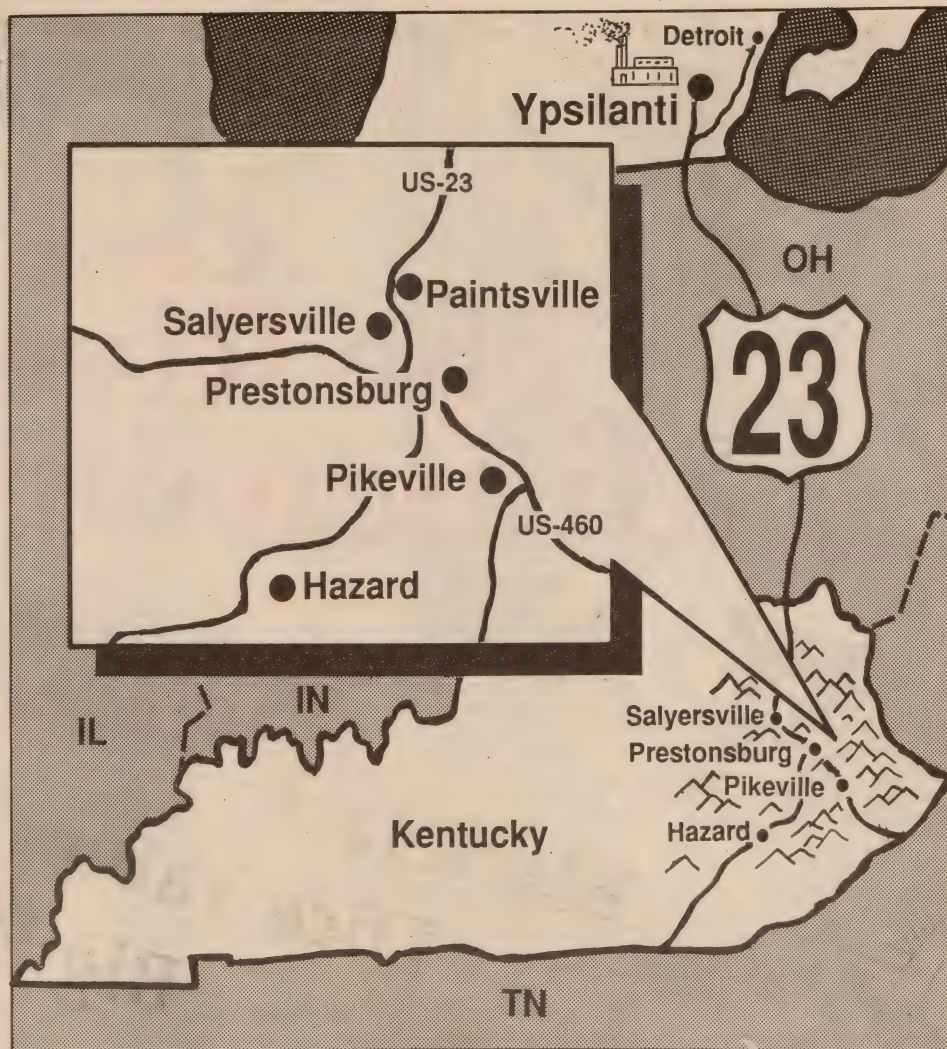
That hold has never slipped since three Kentuckians were among the first Democrats ever elected to the township board in 1957.

The Ypsilanti Township Board has been dominated by southern Democrats since the first slate won. The board that served until last fall included four Kentucky natives, along with Trustee J.D. Hall, who hails from Arkansas. Currently, Supervisor Wes Prater and Trustee Brenda Stumbo give the board Kentucky representation. No Republican has been elected to the township board since the late 1960s.

Southern leadership has been marked by colorful characters, down-and-dirty Democratic primary campaigns and more than a few public squabbles between former allies. Bill Risner, who came to Ypsilanti from Maytown, Ky. in 1950, said "they've been a-fightin' as long as I've been here, and they're still at it now."

But at the township's Democratic core is a network of family ties that traces its roots to Appalachia.

"You take a lot of families and you start putting them together in the township," former Supervisor Bill Gagnon told the Ypsilanti Press a decade ago, "and you've got an unbeatable combination."



Winters said a few campaign tactics — such as an emphasis on door-to-door campaigning, may have come from the South, but he said "I think a lot of them are things you learn as you go along, maybe from a Coleman Young or a Jim Blanchard as much as anybody. In the political arena, I think you do what's best for you or your candidate, but I don't think any practices are used because they came from the South."

Southerners have represented a significant voting bloc throughout that time, but Prater, who came north from Bonanza, Ky. in 1952, said "I don't think it's really the numbers" that's led to the long winning streak. "I think they've made the commitment to give the time and effort that's made them successful."

The exact numbers of Kentuckians who ventured forth to Michigan may never be known, but U.S. Census figures show the higher numbers of southerners in the Ypsilanti area compared to the rest of Washtenaw County.

According to the 1980 census, 21.2 percent of the 43,740 Ypsilanti Township residents were born in the South, as were 17.5 percent of the city's 23,360 residents. Countywide, the ratio of southern-born people dropped to 11.7 percent.

Between 1955 and 1960, 4.3 percent of the township's 22,786 residents moved here from the South, along with 4.9 percent of the city's 18,695, according to census data. A decade later, movement to the area from the South brought 4.6 percent of the township's residents, and 3.4 percent of the people living in the city.

Local attorney Henry Ritchie attributes the southern success in township elections to a combination of population and activism.

"There's lots of numbers," said Ritchie, who has almost 200 blood relatives in

Washtenaw County. Also, said the former Saline justice of the peace and Ypsilanti Township attorney, "the political impact of the people from the South is because we were politicians from the time we were born."

Township and County Park Commissioner Jimmie Maggard, who came north in 1953 from the coal-mining community of Dorton in Pike County, said "I think it goes back to their roots — if your dad was involved in politics, you were, too, because you went with him and helped him campaign."

Maggard, 55, said he rode between rural homes on horseback to recruit voters for his father's constable and justice of the peace campaigns. During state legislative campaigns, he remembers when "we'd load up the rumble seat with half-pints of whiskey and \$2 bills and head to the election polls."

As is common in politics, the success of southerners at the polls led to an increase in their status among other civic leaders, Wilson recalled.

"You were certainly discriminated upon, until we got everybody registered (to vote)," Wilson said. When he came to Ypsilanti from Gillmore, Ky. in 1946, Wilson said natives here "had a thinking that the hillbillies from Kentucky, Alabama, Tennessee and everywhere else had invaded here and it disrupted everything. They wanted them to go back where they came from."

Henry Ritchie agreed. "It was hard for the southern people to move in here," said Ritchie, the son of a coal miner who lost 23 years of seniority and retirement benefits when the mines closed. "We weren't wanted. We were predominantly the lower class, and I do believe that we were rejected and demeaned. I had to fight every day to go to school."

To fight those problems, "We all started registering people to vote," Wilson said. (See YPSITUCKY, Page 14)

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YPSITUCKY

(Continued from Page 12)

son said, "then when the minority became the majority, they'd speak to you."

With the elected power has come a number of southerners being appointed to leadership positions in local government, but Winters, supervisor from 1974 to 1976 and the father of Ypsilanti Township Attorney Doug Winters, denied that a "Hillbilly Mafia" favoring southerners ever formed here.

"I felt that that was not the case," Winters said. "I was never involved where I made a choice of a township resident because they were from the north as opposed to the south. I would not take part in something like that."

Others see it differently.

"There was a whole big clan of 'em that came up here," said township resident Wayne Perry. "They've done whatever they wanted for years."

Factories chosen over mines

One thing many who left Kentucky did not want to do was work in the low-paying and hazardous coal mines.

Leaving his family home "at the head of one of them hollers" between mountains, Maggard hitchhiked north with 13 cents in his pocket to move to his cousins' home in Ypsilanti.

Years earlier, he said he began work in a coal mine at age 14, "but the mining inspector came in and caught me and told me I couldn't work." He came back

'I'd never heard of Ypsilanti when I left Kentucky. I was just looking for a place to work.'

— Bill Winters, former township supervisor



Press photos by Judson Brannan

at 16, worked half a day, but "I crawled back out of it, ate lunch, looked back at it and said, 'I don't think this is what I was cut out to do,' and I never went back."

Another who left rather than seek coal-mine work was Bill Risner, 74. Risner said he left Kentucky because "I was never a coal miner, and that was about the only jobs that were going there."

Though the two feet of snow on the

ground when he arrived in January 1950 "made me want to go back," Risner said, he never left, working at a variety of jobs ranging from Kaiser-Frazier tool crib attendant to deputy sheriff to real estate salesman to party store owner.

"I just thought it was a good chance for me, and it was a good chance for my entire family."

Ralph Anderson, 63, has moved back and forth between Ypsilanti and his na-

tive McDowell, Ky. since 1954. He served as township clerk from 1957 to 1959, after a two-year term on the Willow Run Board of Education.

Anderson left a steady job as a mine foreman to come here, since "I couldn't see where working in the mines I was ever going to get ahead. I came up here for less money, but I was breathing fresh air."

Though he enjoyed the work life more here, Anderson said he plans to retire to his home territory.

"People live down there on a lower profile of life, slower and easier, and take time to talk to their neighbors," he said. Here, people just don't have time for one another. Some of 'em say they live better, I don't think I agree with that. I feel like time's going by too fast anyway, so I want to slow down."

Development followed small-business economics

While Kentuckians were not able to bring the laid-back lifestyle of their native area to Ypsilanti, the development of the township has reflected their affinity for owning small businesses.

Ritchie said some of the patchwork development of corridors like Ecorse

(See YPSITUCKY, Page 17)



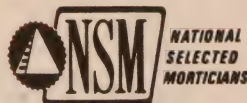
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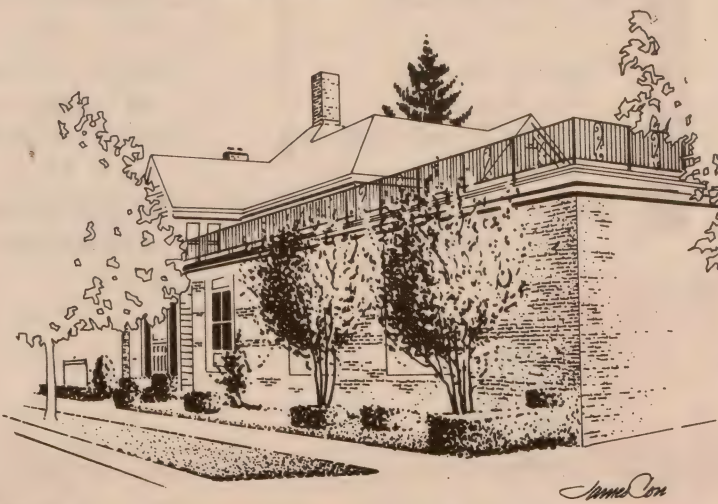
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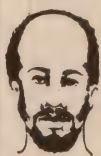
This photo shows Robert A. Prieskorn with his wife Louise at Wallace Boulevard and Cross Street in Ypsilanti in the late 1920s. Prieskorn usually drove the streetcar from Ypsi to Ann Arbor and Jackson. The photo was submitted by Robert J. Prieskorn of Willis.



Courtly gathering

This photo shows Miss Ypsilanti and her court for the 1936 Centennial Pageant. Pictured are Bernadine Peters (Mrs. Howard Carty), Elizabeth Jellis, Sylvia Burrell (Mrs. Wilfred Brooks), Ruth Toles (Mrs. John Squires), and Helen Katon (Mrs. John Grant). The photo was taken in Ypsi's Recreation Park. The picture was submitted by Roger Katon of Ypsilanti.

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YPSITUCKY

(Continued from Page 14)

Road and East Michigan Avenue is traceable to the early efforts of transplanted southerners.

"The people from the South have generally been migratory people, and that meant they started small businesses, usually on a shoestring. Many of them were successful with that, but you didn't see southern people developing shopping centers, you didn't see southerners developing factories. They usually went into single businesses, and that's contributed to the development of areas like Michigan Avenue and Ecorse Road."

With southern developers reaching prosperity in recent years, Ritchie said, "we are getting into the position where we can build things like shopping centers and apartment complexes."

In addition, Ritchie pointed out that Michigan Avenue and Ecorse Road were mostly developed before zoning and planning controls were used in the township.

"From an overall perspective," Prater said, "I think they've done fairly well according to the standards I use — the folks have developed a community that's affordable (and) they've been able to provide the basic services that are necessary for that community."

Along with developing areas in their

'The political impact of the people from the South is because we were politicians from the time we were born.'

— Henry Ritchie, attorney



Press photo

Wes Prater (center) is shown celebrating his 1988 Democratic primary victory which assured him of the township supervisor's post.

economic image, Ritchie said future use of some areas was planned with Democrats in mind.

Fifteen years ago, when Ypsilanti Township was developing its first master land use plan, "we could've said, 'We want 1/2-acre lots for everybody in the township,' Ritchie said. "What would we have got? Republicans. The automotive workers needed 60-foot lots to build homes on, so we zoned it that way, knowing that those people are predomi-

nantly Democrats."

With housing developments in those areas moving ahead now, Ritchie said the zoning assured "this community will have a Democratic flavor for years to come."

Though many from the original cadre of Kentuckians-turned-Ypsilantians have passed away or left the area, their descendants remain. Ed VanHorn, 36, a local contractor who co-owns VanHorn's Furniture, 1085 E. Michigan Ave., was

born in Ypsilanti, but his parents were part of the move from eastern Kentucky.

While attending Willow Run schools, "we were all from the southern descent," VanHorn said. "It's strange how your southern roots still take effect. You'll say, 'I'm from up here,' but your roots are still down there. You may not speak like a southerner, but the connection is still there."

Van Horn predicted "the southern influence on the area will remain for quite a while," but he said its visible impact on area development is minimal, since "most of the southern taste has blended in with everybody else who lives here."

Though proud of their southern roots, Ypsilanti's Bluegrass immigrants make it clear that "My Old Kentucky Home" is more a nostalgic tune than a rallying cry.

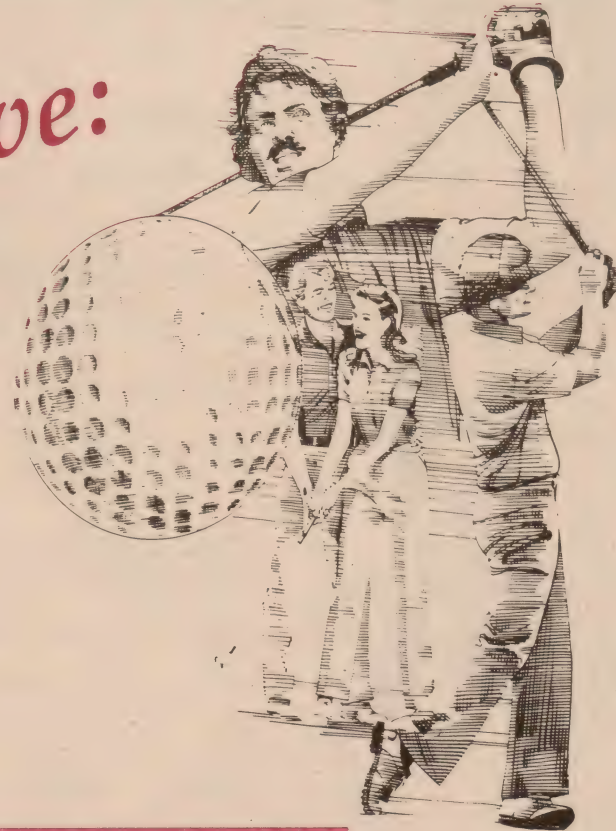
Attorney Ritchie said he has fond memories of the "early, pioneer-type life we had" in Knott County, when the small, hillside farm included chickens, hogs, a milk cow and a pony named Maude, but no electricity. However, after nearly 40 years here, Ritchie said "my roots are here. That doesn't mean I don't love my place of birth. That has a home feeling to me, too, but when I think of home, I think of Ypsilanti."

Added Prater: "Ypsitucky is my home."



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Image

(Continued from Page 3)

In turning that around, Ritchie said, "we were lucky beyond most people's realizations to have (former state House Speaker) Gary Owen. Gary's input was enormous into creating some positives for this community."

As the reality changes, the image will continue to evolve away from the shot-and-a-beer stereotype, Prater predicted.

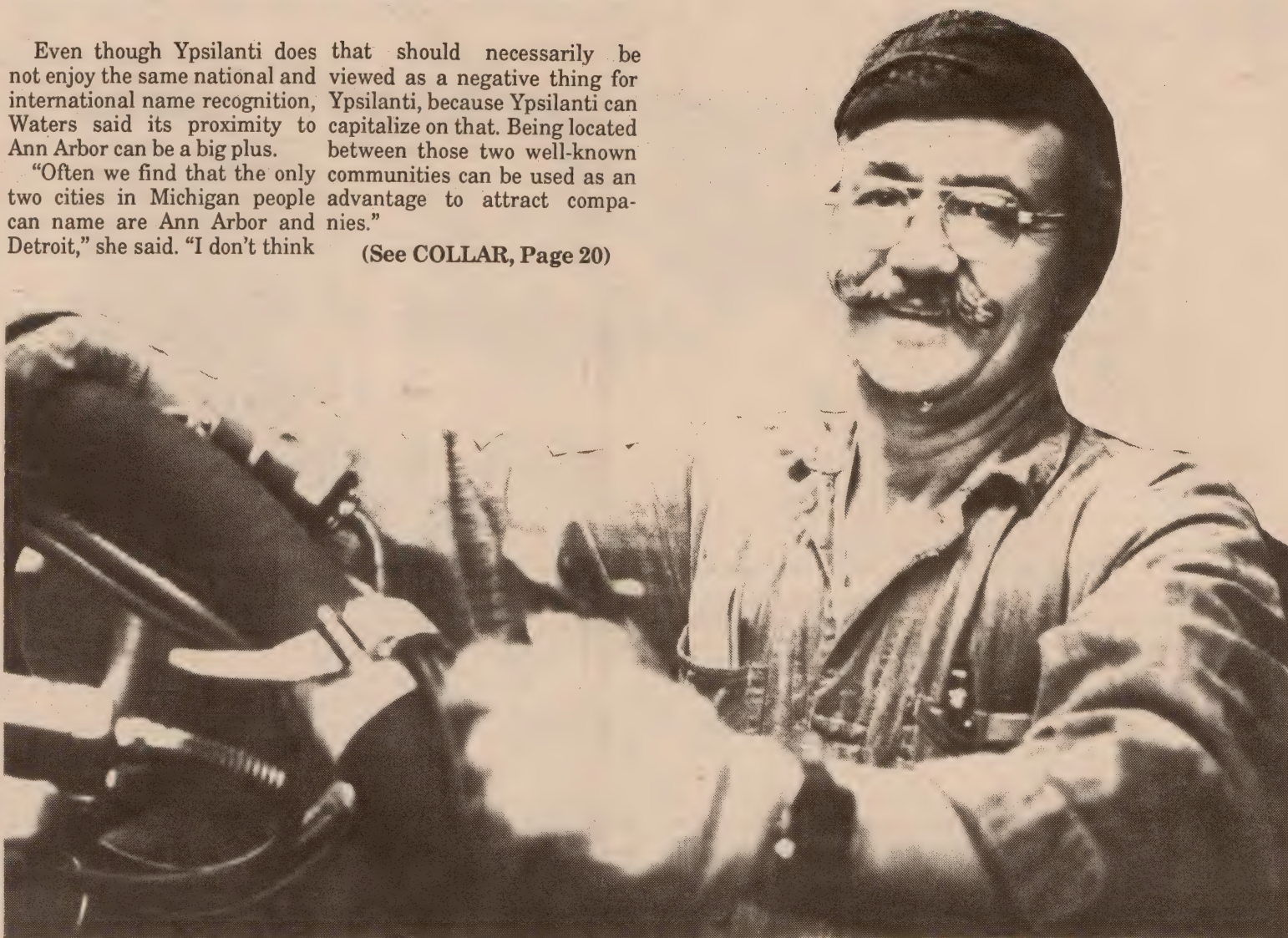
Gretchen Waters of the Washtenaw Development Council agreed.

Ypsilanti "certainly is known to be related to more manufacturing operations, and that's somewhat a true statement," Waters said. "But with the increasing prominence of Eastern (Michigan University), the Corporate Education Center and the College of Business going up downtown, that's starting to change."

Countywide, though she said "I don't think Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor will ever be viewed the same," Waters said "I think some of the traditional stereotypes are beginning to be broken down by the things that are happening now."

Even though Ypsilanti does not enjoy the same national and international name recognition, Waters said its proximity to Ann Arbor can be a big plus. "Often we find that the only two cities in Michigan people can name are Ann Arbor and Detroit," she said. "I don't think that should necessarily be viewed as a negative thing for Ypsilanti, because Ypsilanti can capitalize on that. Being located between those two well-known communities can be used as an advantage to attract companies."

(See COLLAR, Page 20)

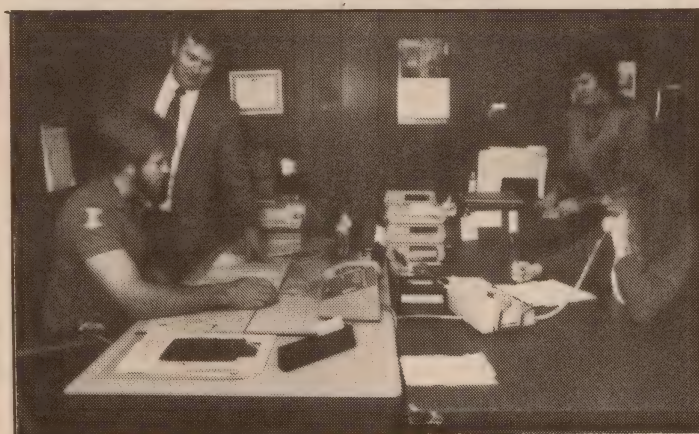


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Winter of '28

This photo shows Doris R. (Augustus) Larson, left, now of Spring Hill, Fla., and Margaret J. (Augustus) Haushalter of Ypsilanti at 501 W. Michigan Ave. during the winter of 1928. The house — which belonged to their grandparents, Frank and Kittie Augustus — stood on the site now occupied by the Ypsilanti Police Department. The photo was submitted by Margaret Haushalter.

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Collar

(Continued from Page 18)

That proximity also attracts homebuyers, said Jeff Stabnau, an associate broker with Ypsilanti's Elmer Realty.

"We are being inundated with out-of-town buyers," Stabnau said, "and that's something we haven't been used to in the past. I've never seen it so good in the past 11 years — this is a tremendously strong market."

Along with "a lot of buyers from western Wayne County," Stabnau said, "we're getting a lot of buyers who don't want to pay the Ann Arbor prices but want to live in Washtenaw County."

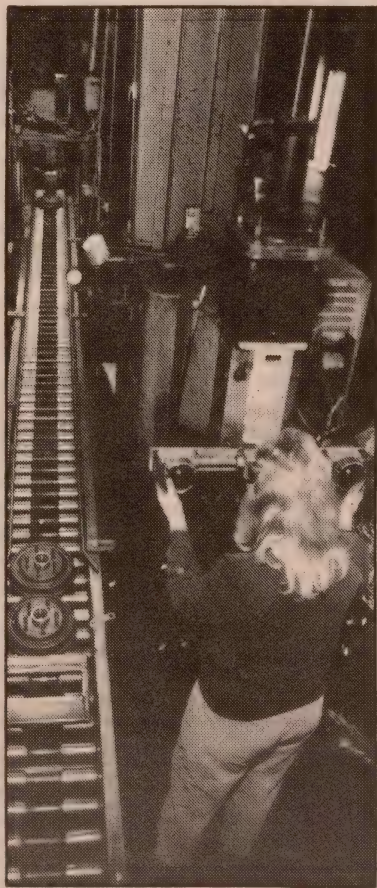
While the variety and moderate pricing of existing homes makes them attractive, he said, vacant land and building lots are selling well, too.

"A fair amount of our business historically has been selling vacant land," Stabnau said, "(but) it's just not as easy to find building sites for sale now."

Though Ypsilanti's image may have deterred buyers in the past, Stabnau said "The people who are coming to Washtenaw County now are very excited about finding Ypsilanti — if they have to be in Washtenaw County for employment purposes, this community has a lot to offer."

Waters acknowledged that the image of a rough-and-tumble factory town persists, but added, "Everyone has their stereotypes, but I think people are beginning to realize that the factory worker of today and the future is a person who has to have technical skills. I personally would say that's a pretty outdated stereotype for the Ypsilanti area and manufacturing centers in general."

"Industries no longer are depending on assembly workers with little or no skills. That's the advantage the Ypsilanti area has in attracting employers to locate here, and we point



Press photo

that out to clients. We have a long tradition of manufacturing and a long heritage of successful industry here, yet we are a very advanced region technologically because of our universities, so it makes perfect sense to look at Ypsilanti and Washtenaw County for a factory in the future. It's kind of the best of both worlds."

Ypsilanti Township builder and apartment owner Russell Anderson said the increased number of highly paid professionals working in the Ypsilanti area has caused him to upgrade his target market in recent years.

"For years, I catered to the blue-collar worker in the \$40,000 to \$60,000 range," Anderson said, "but now I feel that we're becoming more of a professional, prestige area. And I think it's going to continue to grow."

(See BLUE, Page 37)

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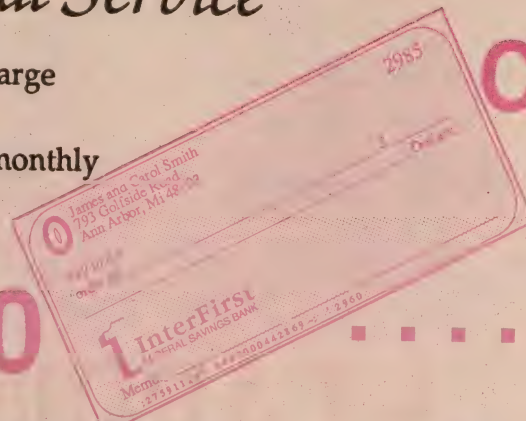
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Grandmotherly love

This photo shows Minnie Bedell, 79, and Roger C. Katon, 5, at Aretas A. Bedell's home at 325 Maple St. in 1932. Aretas is Minnie's son and Roger's uncle. The photo was submitted by Roger Katon of Ypsilanti.



Horsing around

This photo shows William H. McDermott, right; Peter Kerner, holding the reins; and a few patrons at McDermott's shop on Michigan Avenue near River during the early 1900s. The photo belongs to Pearl Wagner, Kerner's daughter.

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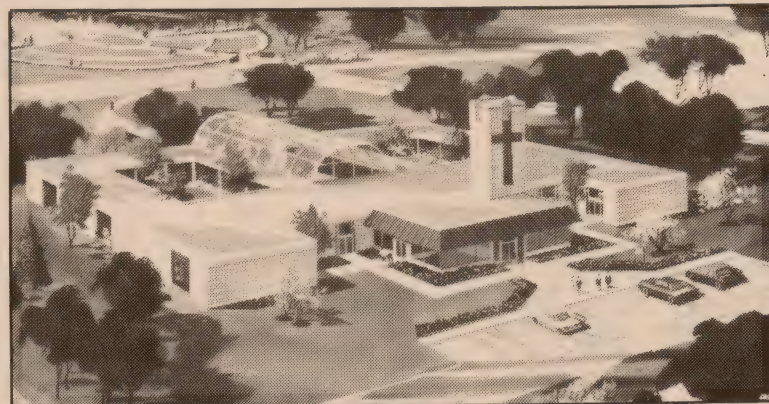
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Chill

(Continued from Page 26)

stage for the township-city split and divisions between the east, working class, side of the city and the west side.

"Of course people only saw the ones who had little money, and that gave all the Willow Run villagers a bad name," said Potter.

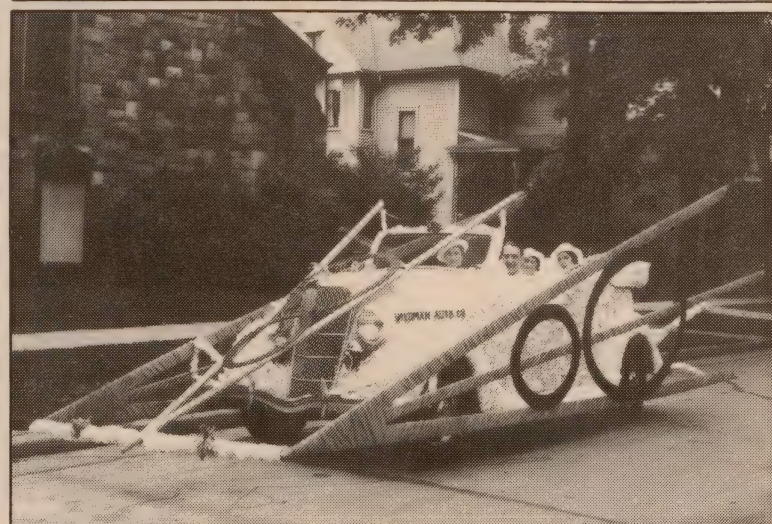
"The city was offered the village but they wouldn't take it. They wanted no part of it," said Potter. She said the League of Women Voters put together packets of information during later annexation votes, outlining the advantages of consolidation for both the city and township, but each time the mea-

sures were rejected by voters.

"It will happen only if it is mandated by the state," said Potter. "It's foolish to have two small governments where one could do it."

Talk occasionally arises about consolidation — recently City Council member Eula Tate said rising costs have made it inevitable — but political reality makes it unlikely until a real crisis is perceived, many officials agreed.

Until then, city and township officials continue to try to work around the wounds that have molded and dissected eastern Washtenaw County for more than 45 years.



Parade entry

This photo shows the Wiedman Auto Co. entry of a 1936 Ford V-8 in the annual Ypsilanti Fourth of July parade. The car is in front of the First Congregational Church on Adams Street. The E.G. Wiedman Auto Co. was located on Pearl Street between Washington and Adams. It was later purchased by Gene Butman and relocated to the present Washtenaw Avenue site. The photo was submitted by Roger Katon of Ypsilanti.



Catholic church

This photo shows the old St. John the Baptist Catholic Church at West Cross and Hamilton, which was built in 1858 and razed in 1923. The photo may have been taken in 1923 shortly before its demolition. The photo belongs to Pearl Wagner, whose parents, Peter and Julia (Livernois) Kerner were married in the church in 1903.

Family and fortune have forged a strong link between...

Northern factories, southern coal mines

By JUDSON BRANAM
Press Staff Writer

MOSSY BOTTOM, KY. — Creed Mullins looked up from the side of the pickup truck he was leaning on when he heard the stranger's question.

"Ypsilanti?" repeated the Pikeville, Ky. resident, who had paused from shoveling coal with neighbors. "I lived in Ypsilanti for 33 years. Hell, we took over Michigan and never even fired a shot."

While the tree-covered mountains and hollows of Appalachia bear little resemblance to the subdivisions, fields and paved streets of the Ypsilanti area, the areas have been linked for years by Kentuckians' travel north in search of jobs.

"I'd say half of eastern Kentucky and Appalachia is in Michigan and Ohio," said Jean Lafferty, who operates Prestonsburg's Kentucky Motel with her husband, Tom.

With local employment limited to the harshly cyclical coal mining industry, state and federal government jobs and a few restaurants and hotels, Lafferty said, "you either have to have a government job or you have to



Massive loads of coal are the dominant product of the Appalachian region.

start your own business in order to survive."

One Kentuckian whose government service enabled him to stay in the South and out of the coal mines is Floyd County District Judge Harold Stumbo, a cousin of Ypsilanti Township Trustee Brenda Stumbo and

former Township Treasurer T.R. Stumbo. Judge Stumbo said political activism in the family runs deep, evidenced by the fact that "we've had a Stumbo in office since 1949" in Floyd County.

Stumbo said he understands why many natives of Appala-

chia left the area, although the exodus has taken its toll in the long run.

"It takes away some talent that the mountains of Kentucky could use," Stumbo said, "but we still don't have the opportunities here that you have in a thriving metropolitan area —

that's what the people move out of here for."

Migration to the north began during a strike in support of the United Mine Workers in 1936 and 1937, said Bob Castle, of the Auxier Historical Society in Floyd County. Since then, "Every time we go through an upheaval in the coal industry, we have people going north."

Though a coal-mining boom in the 1970s brought many Kentuckians back to their hometowns, Castle laments the ones that got away.

"A lot of intelligent people who could have made a difference in the economy went away," Castle said. "I think a lot of people who left us took a part of our folklore that we could've used."

"I think it's unfortunate," agreed John Wesley Hall, a teacher and historian in Martin, Ky. who estimates that 10 percent of Appalachia's population headed north between the 1940s and the 1960s. "But it's just self-preservation. You've got to belong to cliques and clans to get into our school system (workforce), so if you don't

(See SOUTH, Page 24)

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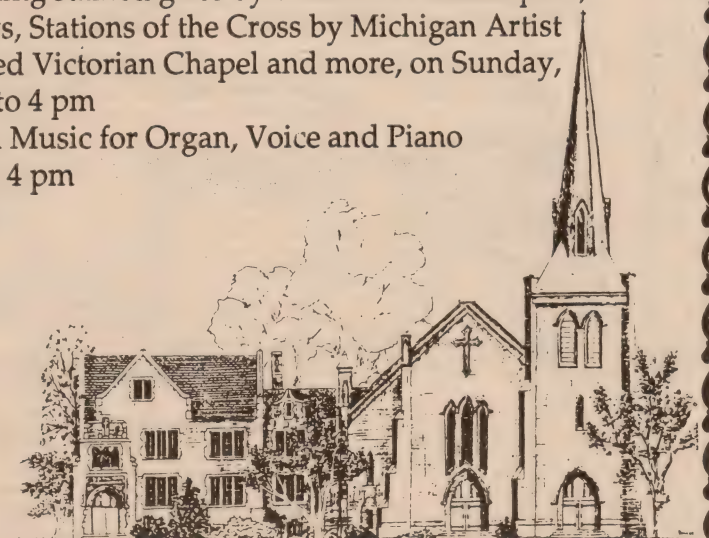
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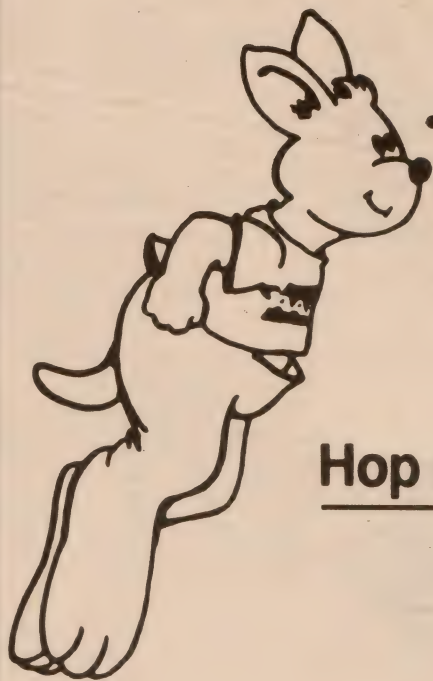
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Press photo by Judson Branam

District Judge Harold Stumbo continues a 40-year family tradition of local officeholders.

'Everything is politically motivated in eastern Kentucky. It's who you know and how many votes are in your family.'
— Jean Lafferty, hosteler

South

(Continued from Page 23)

play a certain fiddle you don't get anything."

The strong southern representation in Ypsilanti Township over the years does not surprise Lafferty, a first cousin of former Ypsilanti Township Trustee Lackey Hunter and the sister of Ypsilanti Press pressman Roy Hunt.

"Politics get hot here — they have Christmas in May here, and Christmas in November," said Lafferty, adding that "everything is politically motivated in eastern Kentucky. It's who you know and how many votes are in your family."

Sophistication in local politics contrasts with most people's image of the area, Lafferty said.

"When you talk about Appalachia, people think all they do here is make moonshine, go barefooted, carry a shotgun and kill wild meat," Lafferty said. "It really isn't like that."

"There are a lot of professional people that come out of our school system, but they have to leave the mountains to make a living. It's rather sad, because there is a lot of talent, there are a lot of intelligent people here, but how can you stay here and raise a family when there's nothing here?"

She said young adults raised in Appalachia "don't want to live in these hollows and creeks and on top of these knobs — they want fast money, a new car and they want to live in the inner cities."

Though "there's more jobs

than there used to be," Prestonsburg Mayor Ann Latta said the area still has 12 to 15 percent unemployment, with an average education level of just eight years.

Latta, who lived in Lapeer for eight years, said "there's a lot of Michigan ties," Latta said, "but a lot of 'em have come back."

Heading south into Appalachia on US-23, the flat, fertile soil of southern Ohio gives way to rocky, tree-covered slopes. Mounds of earth rise up, capped with trees like giant mushrooms, as the rolling hills yield to hard baserock.

Huge piles of coal on the roadsides, and bulging coal semis racing each other through the hills, let you know you've arrived in Appalachia.

"I wish I had \$50 for every time I made that trip," said Rafe Lafferty of Allen, Ky., who worked at GM's Willow Run assembly plant and at Ford's Wayne truck plant before returning to the south to work as a carpenter.

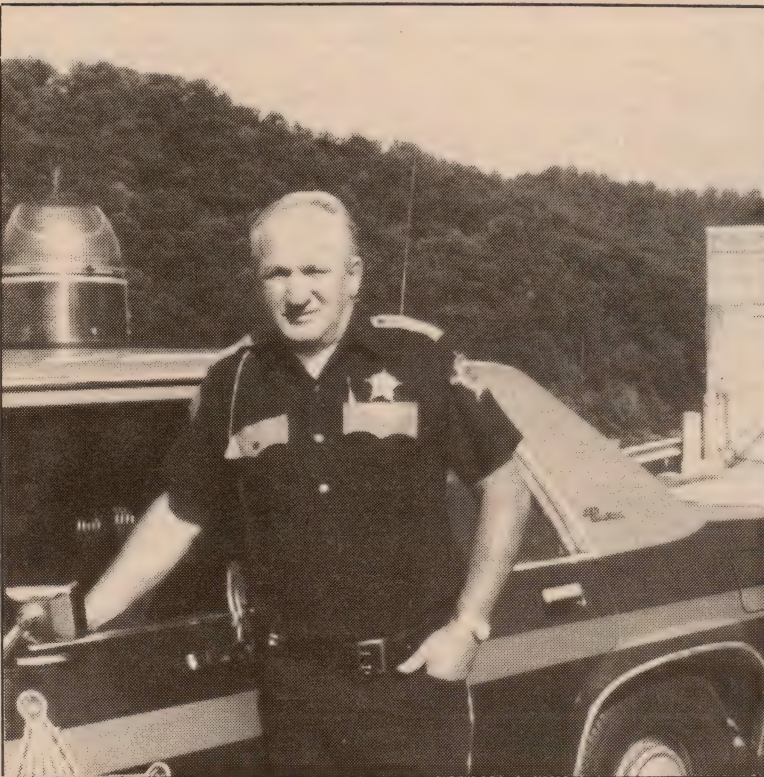
"Just about everybody down here, at one time, had somebody in their family working in Ypsilanti."

Delbert Wells, who left General Motors after 18 years to return to his native Auxier, remembered that "there was no problem finding work up there at all. All you did was go in and fill out an application and they gave you a physical and put you to work."

Wells, who now owns and operates TIES, (See TIES, Page 25)

Ties

'Up there, you don't associate with your neighbor like you do down here. If you need help, they'll be the first one there — but that's the only time you'll see 'em. Here, people know more about you than you do yourself.'
— Roy Blackburn, deputy



Press photo by Judeon Branam

Roy Blackburn left northern plants for a deputy sheriff's job in his native Floyd County, Ky.

(Continued from Page 24) County Sheriff's deputy, maintains the Auxier Market, said taining order in the scenic "the only thing I miss is the Dewey Dam area. "Up there, kind of retirement they're getting now."

Cold Michigan winters are not the stuff of nostalgia for the Wells, who added that the Kentucky mountains prevent such headaches as tornado warnings.

Roy Blackburn, who returned to Prestonsburg in 1972 after more than 18 years in auto plants here, said the terrain is not the only contrast between the two areas.

"There's different people," Blackburn, now a Floyd way, I'd be up there yet."

'There was no problem finding work up there at all. All you did was go in and fill out an application and they gave you a physical and put you to work.'

Delbert Wells, grocer

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Southern workers were welcomed at factories but city residents gave them...

The Cold Shoulder

By RON LEUTY
Press Staff Writer

Jobs were plentiful for southerners journeying to Willow Run's bomber plant. But one thing couldn't be bought by the money they earned — equality in the eyes of native Ypsilantians.

Original Willow Run residents, their descendants and those who have followed them to work in the automobile industry never have forgotten the way they were treated during the southern invasions of the 1940s, '50s and '60s.

"Nobody accepted the villagers," said Dr. Marcia Potter, who practiced in the old Willow Run village that spread from Michigan Avenue to south of Geddes Road and from Ridge to Prospect roads.

To this day, the scars still run deep enough to foster feelings of mistrust between Ypsilanti Township and the city. The city's four failed annexation attempts and joint ventures — such as JYRO and YCUA — that have been less than happy marriages point toward the strain.

"I think years ago you could've seen a much different community had the city of Ypsilanti taken a different attitude toward Ypsilanti Township," said Supervisor Wes Prater, a native of Bonanza, Ky. "I think there's some elements that could've been improved upon."

"In the beginning, from the overall planning approach, I think the city may have had the knowledge of planning and overall development — I'm not so sure we're not ending up in a good posture, but possibly could've been less painful. Now we've gotten to the point where both communities are on course with what they want to do, and they really don't need each other in many areas."

Little did the city realize that the village, built almost overnight to house 15,000 workers and their families, would become an integral part of the township economy. After the bomber plant closed at the end of World War II, it became a "ghost town" with rows of empty buildings.

So who could blame the city, Washtenaw County, even the state of Michigan for not jumping at the chance to grab an empty plant and scores of stark



Press photo

"They said 'Absolutely not — let the hillbillies stay out there where they belong. We don't need them in here,' That's what's been between Ypsi Township and the city ever since."

— Chester Wilson, YCUA

housing units? The answer: a lot of folks.

"When the city was given the opportunity to just buy the government property where the village was, they refused. They wanted nothing to do with us," said Chester Wilson, purchasing director for the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority. "Then they tried to take us and incorporate us into the city. The older people never have forgotten this."

Said Dick Branham, the township's personnel and purchasing director, "They'd give their eye teeth for it now."

Now, two huge factories — General Motors' Chevrolet-Pontiac-Canada Group assembly plant and GM's Hydramatic plant — as well as hundreds of people call Willow Run their home. It has a golf course, the Ypsilanti Township Community Center and several businesses.

"It was a very 'cliquey' town at that time," recalled Elba Forbes Jr., who opened Forbes Cleaners in 1944 on Brower Street. (now College Place), near Cross Street, in the city. "They kind of resented the outsiders."

"I think they (village residents) are true in saying that."

Forbes later opened a plant at 306 N. River and a store at 515 W. Cross before moving operations to 923 Ecorse in the township. Coming from Detroit, Forbes said he also felt the pressure of being an "outsider."

Clyde King, then a 17-year-old living with his family above the old Shaefer Hardware Store on North Huron Street, remembers his mother meeting one of the workers from the village at the Salvation Army and renting out young Clyde's room.

King now is Ypsilanti's mayor.

"I don't recall much of anything except so many people came to town," said King, who was forced to sleep in the living room. "They were hard-pressed and we had a lot of room."

"I suppose there was resentment back then, with the city people feeling that newcomers were taking the jobs. They probably wanted things to remain the same," said King.

Washtenaw County Commissioner Roy Smith said, "The city crucified themselves."

"They (the city) could have had lots of land but they didn't act," said Smith, a Republican who managed to break the Democratic stronghold as a township supervisor in the late 1950s and mid-1960s.

Smith remembered sitting at a local banquet and overhearing a prominent city businessman tell another well-to-do businessman, "If these hillbillies would

get out of Ypsilanti it would be a decent place to live again."

Smith, a native Tennessean, lived in the old village as a University of Michigan student. The U-M used the shacks, shanties and quonset huts as housing for war veterans-students.

"People would always say, 'Oh, but Roy, you're not one of them. You're educated,'" said Smith.

Wilson, who operated a Willow Run-to-Ypsilanti bus line in the late 1950s, had a 20-year lease to provide service to the city, but he said city fathers contributed to its demise in 1958.

Wilson pleaded with City Council to waive a \$25 monthly fee for each stop within city limits until the village was rebuilt and occupied, saying he could not afford to operate and pay the fees.

"They said, 'Absolutely not — let the hillbillies stay out there where they belong. We don't need them in here,'" Wilson said. "That's what's been between Ypsi Township and the city ever since."

He ended up selling his buses to Canada, and the city and township went without bus service until the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority began bus runs here more than 20 years later.

Prater said the two communities "can be cooperative and participate with each other, but we went through a lot of pain developing water and sewer (systems) years ago. We had to go around the city, when an integrated approach would have been much easier."

But he added that Ypsilanti was not alone in denying utilities access.

"If you look back, it was typical that a city refused to extend utilities into neighboring communities, because they used that as leverage for annexation."

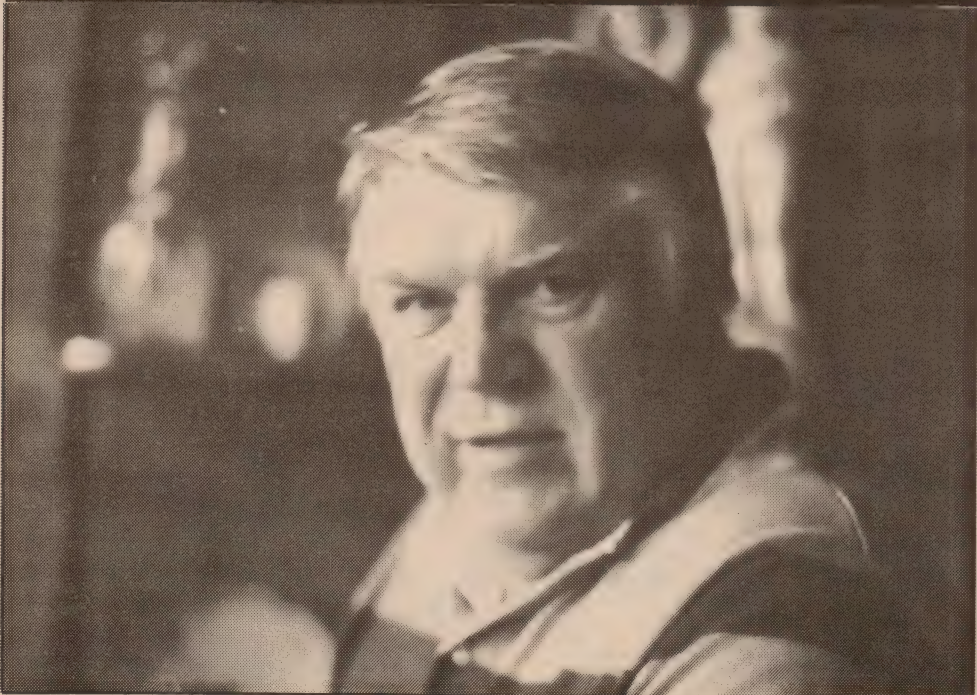
Dr. Potter, who moved to the city and continued her practice for 40 more years, said, "Nobody in this city ever granted them (village residents) group-buying privileges. There were no advantages."

Those who had money when the plant closed bought homes in the area or returned to the south. Poorer workers were forced to stay here, said Potter. She said the inequities set the

(See CHILL, Page 37)

Many try to influence the city but few have the impact of...

The Mayor



Press photo by Ron Leuty

Boatwright was mayor from 1970 to 1972

By RON LEUTY
Press Staff Writer

It's not a job with a lot of security — there have been 52 people in the position, serving an average of 2½ years. It is a job in which long hours are spent, planning and voting and compromising and dealing, sometimes in vain.

And it's a job that causes the home telephone to ring at 4 a.m. or 1 a.m. or 11 p.m. — anytime.

Yet, a lot of people want the job when it's advertised every two years.

"It" is Ypsilanti's mayor.

A handful of those who have served as mayor survive, among them are Michigan's first black mayor, John Burton, one of the state's first woman mayors, Sue Sayre, the director of the Michigan Municipal League, George Goodman, and many more.

Richard Boatwright was mayor at one of the most difficult times for city-university relations. It was the early 1970s. Students protested against the Vietnam War and against the university administration's reaction. But city government had to continue.

An Ypsilanti native, Boatwright first was elected to the non-partisan council in 1969 and his council peers selected him as mayor in 1970 and again in 1971. He resigned from council in July 1972 and moved to Manchester.

"We came through here and I saw that they had elections coming up — six

or so Republicans and no Democrats," the Republican Boatwright recently recalled. "I looked at my wife and said, 'My God, Margaret, I've found the promised land.'"

He laughed gently, sitting behind an antique desk in his son's Iron Horse Antiques in one of the two or three blocks that make up downtown Manchester.

"I've always been one who spoke my mind — and I did it," said Boatwright, 61, a principal in the Crestwood school district in Dearborn Heights.

One of the best things he did as mayor, he said, was to appoint Nathalie Edmunds, who was the lead organizer of the first Heritage Festival. He also points with pride and putting the city budget in the black and calling for a referendum on a city charter commission.

"There's no question to the fact that the mayor set the course of action and brought it to council," he said about the form of government — a source of debate to this day. But he speaks highly of his council, especially former council member John Kirkendall, now a Washtenaw County Circuit judge.

"We wanted city government to be accessible to everyone," he said. "Everybody should have access to their government and we accomplished that."

Manchester, his home for 17 years, almost is too quiet for Boatwright, who grew up at the northeast corner of Michigan and River (where Dairy Queen now stands). Planes roared overhead, highway traffic whizzed past the house.

(See The Mayor, Page 29)

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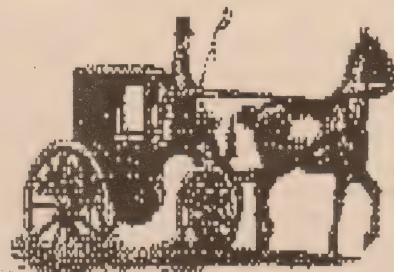


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For Ypsilanti's black community the church has been a force of social change and...

The Pillar of Strength



Press photo

By PAULA DOHRING
Press Staff Writer

Vibrant singing and soul-moving preaching are the staples of any church, but many of the black congregations in Ypsilanti take their devotion further — right into the streets.

Local pastors also are community leaders. They act as spokesmen for the large black population and provide guidance and material needs for their church members.

"Our church is strength," said Rev. Floyd Walls. "We can't afford to do away with the things that give us strength. I think if a lot of young blacks had kept faith, we wouldn't

have many of our problems today."

Walls is the son of the late Bishop Floyd Atwood Walls, founder of Shiloh Church of God in Christ, 1076 Jefferson.

He joined his brothers, Pastor Melvin Walls and the Rev. Dwight Walls, in the church, which he said shouldn't stand empty from Sunday to Sunday.

"A spiritual and physical meeting place is important in order to perpetuate our black heritage," he said. "The black church is the one asset that black people still own."

"If we lose our black churches, we also lose our history, culture and spiritual strength."

The Walls' employ the teachings in Matthew: 35-42, which urges Christians to give to their

'We're involved in the community in many ways. We are there to serve.'

The Rev. Robert Hearn

neighbors.

"We have a prison ministry, because when someone is in prison, it's a stressful time for people," he said. "We have fellowship for couples and young people, a program for feeding the elderly and a Head Start program in the school next door to the church."

He said classes in adult education and substance abuse are also offered, in an attempt to help people with problems break the cycle.

The Rev. Levon Yuille of the Bible Church, 611 E. Cross, is another minister who has assumed a leadership role in Ypsilanti.

Yuille is a founder and president of the Ministers Alliance of Ann Arbor and Vicinity, which unites many black churches. One of the group's annual highlights is a week-long spring revival which draws up to 1,000 blacks from the area to worship together.

In addition, Yuille works with several helping organizations and helps lead the fight against drugs on Ypsilanti's south side.

"The spiritual necessities of the church in the community is the most important," Yuille said. "The problem is we need to

reestablish moral and ethical beliefs."

The black church is central to many people, Yuille said.

"That's what makes it so important to us, we take a holistic approach, from food to education. We take involvement in the total person," he said. "And if you want to reach everyone with a message, you take it to church."

Yuille said the church traditions of Ypsilanti's black population is stronger than in some surrounding areas, such as Ann Arbor.

"A lot of blacks hold onto the traditional southern values here. They come north, but they haven't abandoned traditions. The sense of heritage so rich in (See PILLAR, Page 34)

The Mayor

(Continued from Page 27)

Within weeks of becoming mayor, EMU student protests exploded. He remembers sweeping nails from Forest Street with Ypsilanti Press publisher Dick Kerr after a student demonstration to show that "there was going to be order in that town. Period." And he remembers trying to calm livid area residents who were ready to march on the college.

He also remembers sitting in a McKenny Union room during a student protest, listening to the police radio as a voice asked: "Does anyone know the whereabouts of the mayor? There's been a threat on his life."

There may not have been a threat on the life of Sue Sayre, but because she was one of the first women mayors in the state there was a certain amount of friction on the council.

Sayre, 72, served one term as mayor in 1966-67, and was a council member from 1962-68. At the time, she was only the third woman to have served on the council since it replaced the Board of Aldermen in 1947. Preceding her were Su-

san Hill and Doris Milliman.

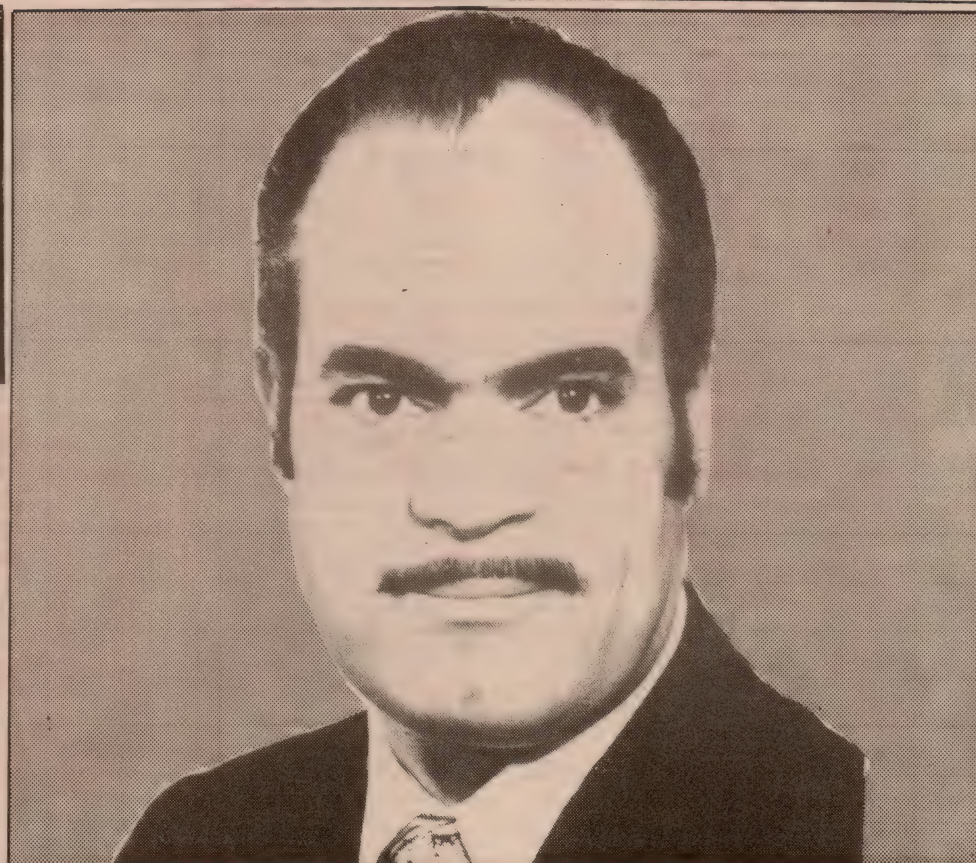
"When I finished, I said I don't want to go through that again," she recalled with a laugh. City Council then consisted of seven members, elected at-large. The mayor was selected from among them.

"It was always a matter of who gets four votes," Sayre said from her Ypsilanti Township condominium near Ford Lake. She and her husband have lived there for about three years. "Being a woman mayor, it was trouble for council to accept. But I got the most popular vote and I was mayor pro tem for two years. I wasn't going to be mayor pro tem another year. I'd done that."

Raised in Detroit, she and her husband, George, moved to Ypsilanti in 1946. She has become an area booster, specifically for Beyer Memorial Hospital and the Ypsilanti District Library. She also serves on the library board.

"Our city manager (Robert Sempole) was good and the calls went to him," remembered Sayre. "I firmly believe in the city manager form of government because they're the professionals."

(See The Mayor, Page 31)



Press photo

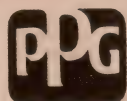
'Any mayor in Ypsilanti who says that things happened because of them isn't reflecting the whole process. The groundwork for some projects was laid before I became mayor.'

George Goodman, mayor, 1972 - 1982



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Interesting facts about Ypsi's mayors

By Ron Leuty
Press Staff Writer

A quick look at a list of mayors would leave one to believe that when America's at war, the mayor gets re-elected.

During the Civil War, Parmenio Davis served three years, longer than any of his predecessors. C.V. Brown served throughout America's involvement in World War I. And Ross Bower was mayor during World War II.

Notable exceptions are the Korean War (1950-53), when the city had two mayors — Daniel Quirk and Carl Scheffler — and the Vietnam War (1965-73), when six mayors served — Jerry Gooding, Sue Sayre, John Burton, Tim Dyer, Richard Boatwright and George Goodman.

Past mayors are noted every day in Ypsilanti.

Several former mayors have streets marking their names — Arden Ballard (1859-60), Benjamin Follett (1860-61), Thomas Ninde (1878-79) and Tracy Towner (1910-12), to name a few.

George Goodman has served the longest of Ypsilanti's mayors — 10 years, from 1972-82.

Other long-serving mayors are Pete Murdock (1982-89), Parmenio Davis (1861-64 and 1868-70), Matthew Max (1929-34), Ray Burrell (1935-40) and Ross Bower (1941-46).

Ypsilanti's Mayors:

Chauncey Joslin	1858-59
Arden Ballard	1859-60
Benjamin Follett	1860-61
Parmenio Davis	1861-64, 68-70
David Edwards	1864-65, 67-68
Edgar Bogardus	1865-67
Francis Bogardus	1871-73, 88-89
Watson Snyder	1873-75
Lambert Barnes	1875-78, 79-80
Thomas Ninde	1878-79
Edward Allen	1880-81, 1899-1900
Henry Scoville	1881-84, 1900-01
Chester Yost	1884-86
Clark Cornwell	1886-88
Daniel Putnam	1889-91
William Seymour	1893-94
Harlow Wells	1895-96
Nolan Harding	1897-98
Don Davis	1898-99
Henry Glover	1898-99
O.E. Thompson	1901-02
Martin Dawson	1902-03
C.R. Hutson	1903-04
George Gaudy	1904-05
John Van Fossen	1906-08
John Kirk	1908-10
Tracy Towner	1910-12
Frank Norton	1912-14
Lee Brown	1914-16
C.V. Brown	1916-20
Theodore Schaible	1921-22
E.R. Beal	1922-23
Hugh Vandewalker	1924-28
Matthew Max	1929-34
Ray Burrell	1935-40
Ross Bower	1941-46
Daniel T. Quirk	1947-51
Carl Scheffler	1952-54
Rodney Hutchinson	1955-56, 58-59
William Foy	1957-58
Donald Fulford	1960-61
John Calder	1961-62, 63-64
Maurice Obermeyer	1962-62
Vincent Buck	1964-65
Jerry Gooding	1965-66
Susan Sayre	1966-67
John Burton	1967-68
Timothy Dyer	1968-70
Richard Boatwright	1970-72
George Goodman	1972-82
Peter Murdock	1982-89
Clyde King	1989-present

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The Mayor

(Continued from Page 29)

It was after Beyer was sold to the former Peoples Community Hospital Association (now United Care Inc.) that Sayre got more involved in politics — to assure that there would be a new Beyer built. She already was active in the League of Women voters.

One regret about being mayor is that Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Township couldn't be pulled together as one unit, said Sayre.

"It should be one geographically and it could be one politically," she said. "I hope it happens while I'm still alive."

Said Sayre: "There are a lot of good people here and, thank goodness, they haven't moved away."

As the city's longest-serving mayor — 10 years — and the first elected under the charter that required the mayor to be elected by at-large popular vote, George Goodman was a focal point of Ypsilanti politics. But Goodman, now executive director of the Michigan Municipal League in Ann Arbor, shies away from giving himself sole credit for projects during his tenure from 1972-82.

"Any mayor in Ypsilanti who says that things happened because of them isn't reflecting the whole process," said Goodman, 48. "The groundwork for some projects was laid before I became mayor."

Like his successor Pete Murdock occasionally bemoaned, the mayor's job brings along with it some "unrealistic expectations that the mayor singularly can solve any particular problem," said Goodman.

A Saginaw native who grew up in the city and was graduated from the old Roosevelt High School, Goodman said he only ran for mayor while his family served.

"It put them in a fish bowl," said Goodman. "I had an interesting array of calls. One woman called to say the chickens in the neighbor's yard was keeping her awake. There were calls about tree limbs and snow plowing. Going to the grocery store took three times longer for me than the average person because everyone had something to talk about."

Goodman said that as mayor he wanted to get Ypsilantians out of their inferiority complex — "They thought they had to have a city like Ann Arbor."

"Ypsilanti has its own char-



Press photo

'When I finished, I said I don't want to go through that again.'
— Susan Sayre, mayor, 1966, 1967

acter and unique features," said Goodman. "It has historic preservation, gorgeous buildings, Depot Town and a river that can be an asset."

Hanging on his office wall are several mementos of his time in public office, which began as a City Council member in 1970. A framed poster that says, "Say Yes to Ypsilanti," and a painting of the water tower that his grandfather helped build.

Goodman, who moved to Ann Arbor in 1983, said most of his mayoral days are fondly recalled but some days are less enjoyable — days when he'd "come home feeling like a dish rag. You lost a lot of energy. You know it's time to move on when you don't have a good time at it."

But, he added, "Nobody makes you run for office. Nobody makes you run for re-election."

"It's an interesting position to be in," said Goodman. "The diversity was a challenge and continues to be a challenge. It's not cut out for everybody."

But people want it and many publicly declare their aspirations every two years. The power, the press, the schedule, the stress — and late telephone calls about the neighbor's chickens.

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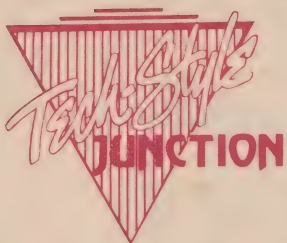
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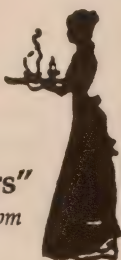
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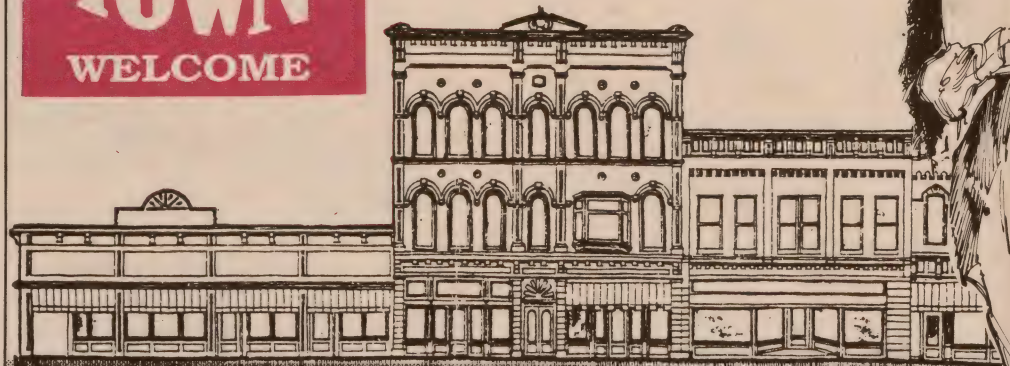
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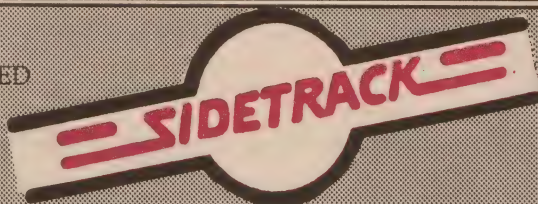
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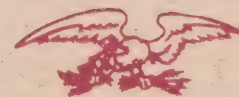
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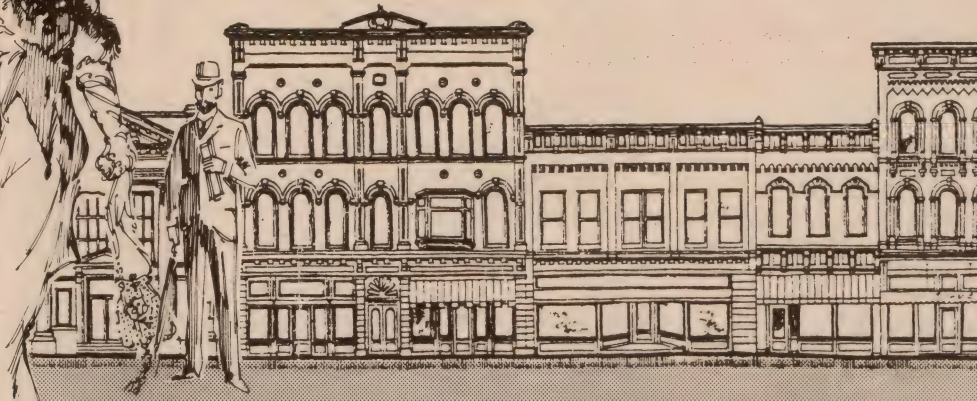
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PILLAR

(Continued from Page 28)

Ypsilanti," he said.

"The rich longevity flows into the church, and the church is involved in the total fabric of the community."

One of the largest and oldest of the churches is Second Baptist, 301 S. Hamilton. Headed by the Rev. B.T. Hopkins, the 700 members worship together and also give a helping hand to the community.

"We're a traditional church and a community church," Hopkins said of the congregation which formed in 1860. "We have a cross-section of members, from professionals to workers."

Offered at the church are programs such as a clothing closet, where needy receive apparel; a food closet, allowing people to pick up canned goods in an emergency; and a tutoring program for young people.

Another of the oldest churches in town is Brown Chapel African Methodist Episcopal.

Founded in 1843 by Sylus Jones and Flora Thompson, an escaped slave, the church met in various homes before found-

ing the AME Society of Ypsilanti in 1848.

The present church at 401 S. Adams was built in 1901. The Rev. Robert Hearn has pastored there for seven years.

"We have some members that grew up in the church and some recently joined," he said.

The church also is active in the community, holding NAACP and Narcotics Anonymous meetings in the basement and an annual Brotherhood Banquet to celebrate Ypsilanti's racial mix.

And to help local people, Hearn said church members operate a feeding program, offering hot meals from noon until 3 p.m. each Friday. Also offered are food bags, although Hearn said they have slowed down.

"We're involved in the community in many ways," said Hearn. "We are there to serve."

The Rev. Harvey Leggett of St. Johns Baptist Church, 866 Monroe, said his church has a membership of close to 1,000, with many of them teen-agers.

"It's because of the kind of relationship I have with young people," Leggett said.

Leggett spends time in the neighborhood of his church, which is near to some public housing projects plagued with

criminal activity and drugs. He said he often approaches young people even if they appear to be involved in crime, and sends them the message that he cares about them.

He said one of the biggest changes he's seen in his 19 years as pastor is the lack of respect teenagers have for the elderly and the lack of interest teens have in activities.

Once they become members of the church, they are put to

work in order to feel a part of Leggett's ministry. The serve as ushers and youth ushers.

"Sometimes you catch them before they get too involved," he said. "If I can reach one good young person, then they'll bring their friends into the church."

"I tell them they are the church of now, not of tomorrow," he said. "It works, it really does."

The church recently celebrated its 19th anniversary and

has built a new building. The former church building now is used as a Christian Education Center.

Thousands of dollars from church coffers go into local charities each year, Leggett said, and more money is sent to foreign missions.

Leggett, from Louisiana, also is active in the district church affairs and in national organization.

(See PILLAR, Page 36)

'A lot of blacks hold onto the traditional southern values here. They come north, but they haven't abandoned traditions. The sense of heritage is so rich in Ypsilanti.'

— The Rev. Levon Yuille

State Senator
Lana

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
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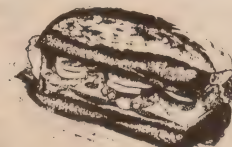
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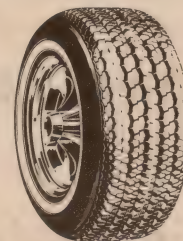
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Ontario museum honors early Ypsilanti settler

By PAULA DOHRING
Press Staff Writer

This weekend marks international history with a local touch when local families travel to Ontario for the dedication of the John Freeman Walls Historic Site and Museum.

A former slave, Walls and his wife travelled from North Carolina on the Underground Railroad. They stopped in Puce, Ontario, where they built their home, raised their family and established an end terminal of the system set up to help fugitive slaves flee the South.

The Rev. Floyd Walls of Ypsilanti and his family, direct descendants of the former slave, gathered biographical information on their ancestor. Along with other family members, they turned the 1846 log cabin into a symbol of black history.

Said Walls: "For the past, the museum will show the symbolized struggle and incredible spirit it took for black slaves to make it to freedom in the Underground Railroad.

"For the present, it will show if spiritual strength enabled the slaves to endure, we must not betray our legacy.

"And the museum is a memorial for the future, it's a way of focusing on the struggles of any people."

On the site besides the cabin, restored to its original condition, is another old cabin. A restored railcar houses African art, and plans are underway to build a soul-food restaurant.

(See MUSEUM, Page 38)



WALLS

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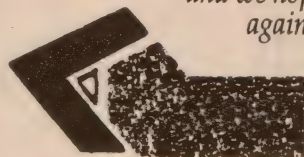
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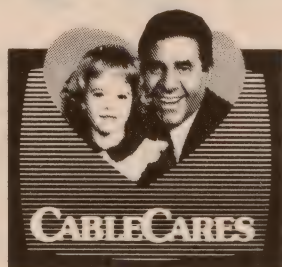
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Press photo

'Our church is strength. We can't afford to do away with the things that give us strength. I think if a lot of young blacks had kept faith, we wouldn't have many of our problems today.'

— The Rev. Floyd Walls

PILLAR

(Continued from Page 34)

The Robersons, S.L. and Garther, also are active pastors in the community, but were unavailable for interviews.

The Rev. S.L. Roberson serves as pastor of Metropolitan Memorial Baptist Church at 431 Hawkins, while his brother leads worship at Mt. Olive Baptist Church, 718 N. Prospect.

Both Robersons have been community leaders for decades

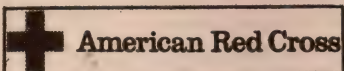
and have large congregations.

They take part in activities to fight crime and drugs, and also participate in civic improvement projects.

Some other Ypsilanti-based black churches include:

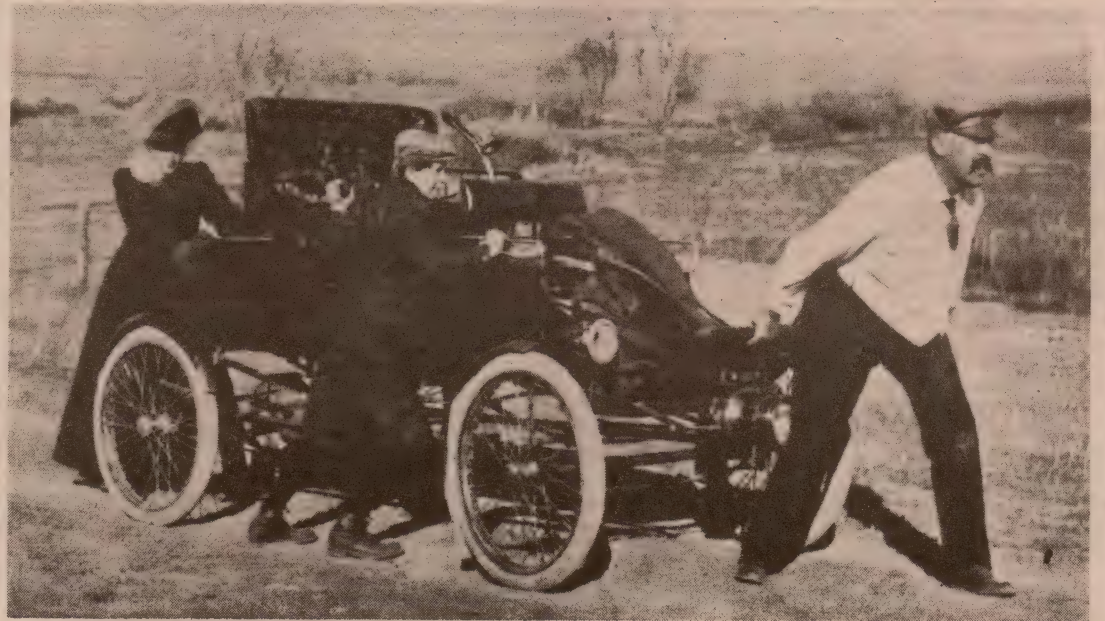
Greater Love Church of God in Christ, 565 Monroe, with the Rev. Charles Edwards; New Testament Baptist Church, 1230 W. Michigan, with the Rev. Freddie Banks; New Gethsemane Baptist Church, 600 E. Clark, with the Rev. Nettie Gray; St. Mary Baptist Church, 561 Second Avenue, with the Rev. T.C. Duckworth; and Messiah's Temple, 200 Harriet, with the Rev. Jesse Roth.

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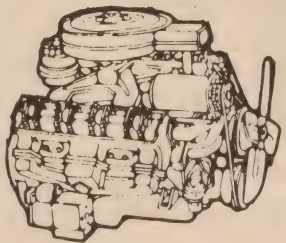
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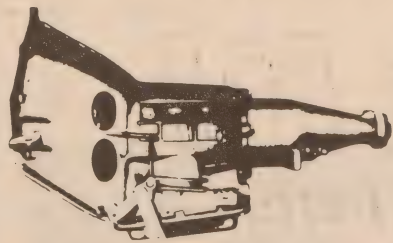
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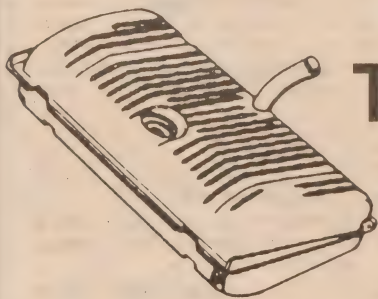


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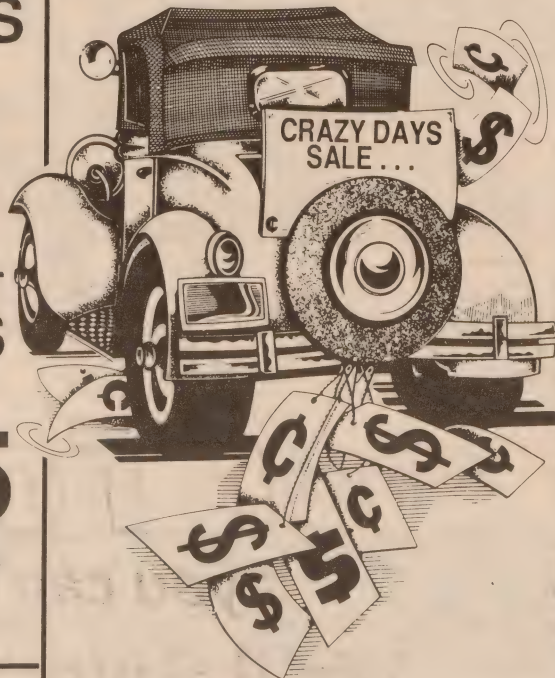


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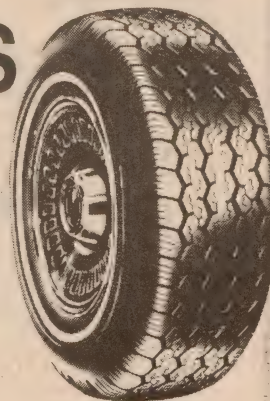


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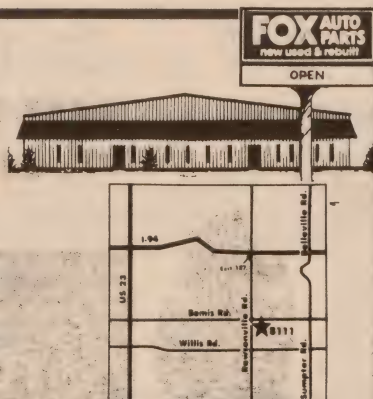


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Blue

(Continued from Page 20)

As proof, he cited the \$150,000 to \$170,000 homes he is building — before finding buyers — in the Munger and Stony Creek Road areas.

"If I were not bullish on Ypsilanti," Anderson said, "I would not have over a half-million dollars in unsold houses under construction right now."

"In Ypsilanti Township, since we have the land, you can buy the same house for \$50,000 to \$70,000 cheaper than you can in Ann Arbor. I think that alone is going to influence a lot of growth this way."

Realtor Lisa Bakewell of Franklin Realty, An Ypsilanti native, said the Washtenaw County real estate market has led to "spillover" buyers looking to Ypsilanti for affordable housing.

"Everybody wants to live in Ann Arbor," Bakewell said, "but because of the price ranges in this area, the young people and

retirees are finding that there's no place to go but Ypsilanti. We are getting younger people in the Ann Arbor area calling us for homes, and when they realize the price range they're in, they find that the Ypsilanti-Pittsfield area is what they're dealing with."

"It's been good for Ypsilanti, because the neighborhoods have improved with every new-comer."

Along with Franklin, which moved to Ann Arbor two years ago after 20 years in Ypsilanti, Bakewell said, "There is a trend toward other Ann Arbor realtors, too, picking up listings in Ypsilanti."

Bakewell said that while property values have not appreciated in Ypsilanti as quickly as they have in Ann Arbor, "I think Ypsi's paced itself a little better so that when the market does turn, they won't take as much of a loss as somebody who's bought in Ann Arbor."



Stage coach days

This photo shows Mildred E. Augustus (now 86 and living in Riverview) and her 2-year-old niece Margaret on a stage coach near the old Cleary College at Michigan Avenue at Adams. The photo was taken in 1923 during the city's centennial. The photo was submitted by Margaret (Augustus) Haushalter, who graduated from Cleary College in 1946.



Historic Beyer

This shows the old Beyer Hospital, probably in the 1930s. The photo was submitted by Margaret Haushalter of Ypsilanti.

Museum

(Continued from Page 35)

And Rev. Walls will establish a branch of the Proverbs Heritage Foundation, along with the Proverbs Tabernacle Church of God in Christ. He plans to spend weekends at the site, offering services and showing visitors part of history.

Several local people already have visited the site, including groups of Willow Run High School students.

The museum is located about 20 minutes from the Detroit-Windsor tunnel. Tours will be offered from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m. Saturday and other events will be offered throughout the weekend.

For information, call 487-9337.

Test your knowledge of Ypsi and play...

TRIVIALANTI

1. Eastern Michigan University graduate Tim McBride has an unusual occupation. What is it?
2. Short Street is not the shortest street in Ypsilanti. What is?
3. Where was Ypsilanti's short-lived Greek theater?
4. What Depot Town building housed area soldiers before they were sent to fight in the Civil War?
5. Which now-prosperous section of Ypsilanti is the former home of several motorcycle gangs?
6. What was the original name of Michigan Avenue?
7. Which punk rock singer, known for such hits as "I Wanna Be Your Dog," hails from Ypsilanti?
8. Where is the original site of Woodruff's Grove, and how is it remembered?
9. Which National Football League team has two Ypsilanti High School alumni on its roster?
10. What EMU grad was seen as a regular on the television show "L.A. Law" last season?

Answers on Page 60

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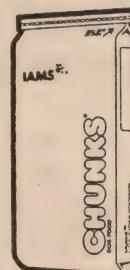


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People learning to work together have made...

Ypsilanti a blueprint for progress

By ALBERT P. MARSHALL
Special to the Press

The progress of Ypsilanti as "The City That Works" can be measured in terms of African American participation. The issue of race gradually has receded in importance over the last five decades, with competency emerging as qualifying criteria, thus the Ypsilanti of today is vastly different from what it was in the 1940's and 1950's.

Caught up in the spirit of change, a few hardy Ypsilantians began tackling problem after problem, and issue after issue, particularly those considered degrading and senseless. This occurred in the early 1940's, and gradually changed the daily living traditions of the entire city. Though change was admittedly taking place throughout the country, Ypsilanti set the pace in many instances.

There existed what might be considered an uneasy truce between the majority and minority people of this community. Second-class citizenship had become an expected existence,



Charles Beatty was one of many who volunteered time to the community projects.

though from time to time it was challenged here. Efforts at strengthening segregation in the schools in 1917, for example, was met with the organization of a NAACP chapter and a successful court fight to prevent any further step in that direction.

Little was done, however, in offering hope for equal opportunity in terms of jobs, housing, and political acceptance.

Analysis

On the developing assembly lines of the automobile industry were many African Americans, but no hope was held out to them for promotion to higher levels. Even after the building of the Harriet Street Elementary School the employment of teachers of color came slowly. It was not until 1935 that Charles

Eugene Beatty joined Louise C. Marshall as the first African American teachers since the abandonment of the old Adams Street School. And two more decades were to pass before they were considered qualified to teach in the other schools of the city.

A bastion against full integration was Michigan State Normal, now Eastern Michigan University. Traditionally the

college employed custodial help, but followed the trend of the times by failing to even consider employing its own trained teachers if their faces were black, that is, until 1954, when it led the way by hiring a teacher of sociology, who was a minority.

A perennial fighter against the status quo during the early period was Ben Neely. A migrant from Virginia, Ben resisted any efforts to be humiliated, and tried to encourage others to join him. A few did, but there were others who derided and scorned him for his efforts. He led pickets against theaters which used ropes to separate the darker skinned patron from the white. In another instance the theater required

African Americans to use the balcony by climbing a set of steps on the outside, though in each instance, the admission charge was the same. Restaurants became targets of Neely's, for most would not accept the patronage of African Americans. He tried to get banks and other service oriented businesses to provide jobs, but this too met strong resistance.

(See PROGRESS, Page 44)

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WASHTENAW COMMUNITY COLLEGE

When black settlers came to Ypsi, they planned on...

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

By PAULA DOHRING
Press Staff Writer

Two migrations brought blacks to Ypsilanti in the '40s: the Underground Railroad in the 1840s and World War II factory production in the 1940s.

Since those early years, blacks united among themselves to form a heritage-rich community and joined with whites to build a diverse and complete Ypsilanti.

Today, many of the city's blacks are second- and third-generation residents, making the city's black roots as strong or stronger than many of the other cultures in Ypsilanti.

Blacks initially were attracted to the area because of the open minds of white settlers, local historian A.P. Marshall said. Some of the whites were Quakers, peaceful people who did not embrace the southern attitudes toward slavery and its people.

By the 1850s, Ypsilanti was firmly anti-slavery, and the town became a stop on the Underground Railroad. Escaped slaves traveled north with the help of sympathetic people,

with one of the local leaders being one of the city's many black businessmen.

George McCoy, a freed slave, often travelled south with his tobacco wagon. His cargo included cigars on the top, and escaped slaves who, in their desperate attempts to flee, were forced to crowd into a hidden compartment in the bottom of the wagon.

(According to Marshall, author of a pamphlet on the subject, McCoy's son Elijah went on to become Ypsilanti's most famous black. "The Real McCoy" was a talented inventor who developed a widely-copied lubrication system.)

At least two of the travelers on the Underground Railroad were ancestors of the Walls and Bass families in Ypsilanti.

The Rev. Floyd Walls II, the city's first black firefighter, said his great-great-grandfather left North Carolina in the 1840s with his late master's wife.

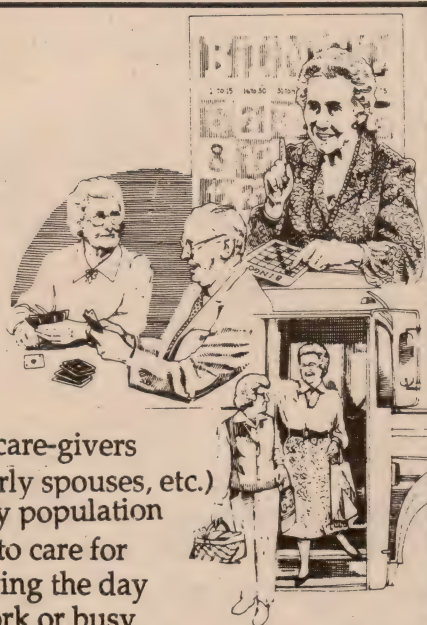
They fled to Canada after stops in Michigan, establishing the end stop to the Underground Railroad and aiding other black settlers in the area. This weekend, family members will celebrate their ancestors'

(See ROOTS, Page 42)



Press photo

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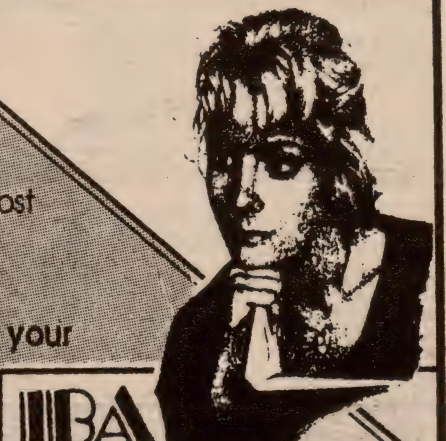
'I came here to get rid of prejudice because there was so much in the South, but when I got here I found just about as much as where I left.'
— Patsy Chandler, community activist

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Remembering the past



Press photos by Paul Hurschmann

Laurence W. Thomas, stands next to a painting of his great-grandmother, Mary Ellen Davis Wallace, daughter of Ypsilanti mayor Parmenio Davis.

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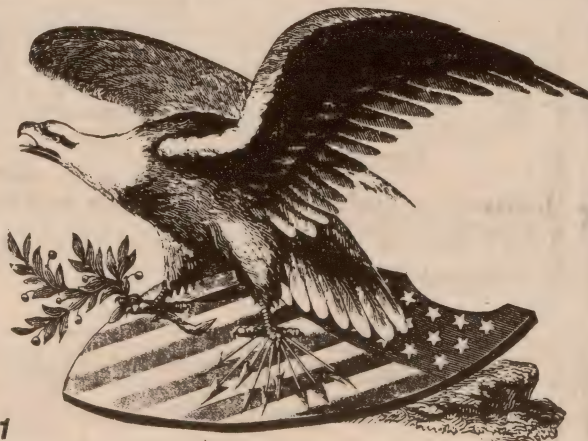
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By **STEPHEN GOLDSTEIN**
Press Staff Writer

Few direct descendents of Ypsilanti's earliest settlers apparently remain in the area, said City Historian Doris Milliman.

However, Jerome Lamb, 68, president of InterFirst Federal Savings Bank, has family roots in Ypsilanti reaching back to 1836, only 13 years after the first families established a permanent settlement on the Huron River at Woodruff's Grove.

His grandfather, John G. Lamb, established a grocery store at 101 W. Michigan, what now is a 1st Optometry Eye Care Center.

Charles King, Jerome Lamb's uncle, joined John Lamb in the store, and it became King & Lamb, and then Lamb and his son, Charles K. Lamb, Jerome's father, ran the store as John G. Lamb & Son.

The store remained in the family for more than 100 years, until Charles Lamb closed it about 1940 as war-time rationing took effect.

"I remember when they had merchants' delivery to houses by horse-drawn wagons," said Jerome Lamb. Taystee Bread sold for seven and 10 cents a

loaf, and a quart of milk cost 11 cents. "I worked there Saturdays part time."

Lamb's mother, Gertrude H. Sherzer, was a daughter of William H. Sherzer, for whom Eastern Michigan University named Sherzer Hall.

Daniel G. (Punk) Quirk, 62, now developing the Airport Industrial Center just east of Ypsilanti, was chairman of the board of the Peninsular Paper Co., a mill his great-grandfather, Daniel Lace Quirk Sr., opened in 1867.

Punk Quirk's father, Daniel T. Quirk, was president of the company before him and mayor of Ypsilanti from 1947 to 1951.

In 1974, the mill became the first acquisition of the James River Corp. of Richmond, Va.

The senior Quirk had emigrated with his family from the Isle of Man in 1827 to a farm near Rochester, N.Y. In the 1840s, he lived in Ann Arbor and Lodi, and he bought the Belleville Mills in 1847.

He later left the area for railroading, livestock and grain trading and hotel management, according to a 1955 biography.

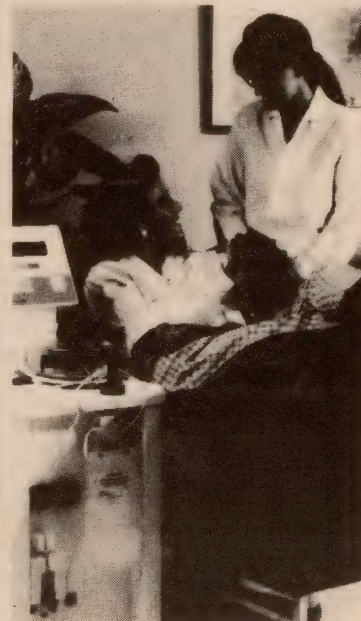
He returned to Ypsilanti about 1860 from St. Louis, where he had been in meatpacking and railroading, said (See **SETTLERS**, Page 43)



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Roots

(Continued from Page 40)

courage with a museum site dedicated to John Freeman Walls in Puce, Ontario.

Up until the early 1900s, Ypsilanti's blacks faced some segregation and an "invisible line" was drawn on Michigan Avenue. Still felt today in the predominantly black "south side", the line established racial boundaries.

On the south side of the street, on the site of the former Wiard's Orchards, many blacks established homes among the apple and pear trees.

One of them was William Perry, Henry Ford's first black employee. Another was Moses Bass, a descendant of John Freeman Walls, who was born in Ypsilanti, grew up in Puce and returned to raise his family in Ypsilanti.

Bass' son, also named Moses, lives on Harriet Street with his wife, Eula.

"This was all orchards back then, with dirt roads and dirt streets," he said. "There's been a lot of changes."

Bass went to Adams School, 401 S. Adams, then Ypsilanti High School.

"Not many of the colored kids went to school then. I quit in the 11th grade," he said. "My dad had a good job at Ford, and I got in down there, in a design building. There was a real closeness there."

Traveling about 20 miles to work was not easy in those days, Bass said. He remembered that new cars cost \$780.

"I could count the people on my hands who had cars in the 1920s," he said. "I'd have to catch a streetcar at Michigan and Washington and ride that all the way in. Sometimes I'd be late, but they'd see me coming and they'd wait up."

Bass, 78, said the Depression hit Ypsilanti hard, but not as bad as many other areas of the country.

"People did pretty good," he said. "There was a lot of WPA (Works Projects Administration) here. At Ford, the \$6 a day was knocked down to \$3 a day."

Bass said racial relations in Ypsilanti generally have been good, although occasionally strained. Problems included the fact that black students rarely graduated because they had to work and some restaurants had policies against serving blacks.

Walls recalled a story of a black doctor who lived on West Cross Street and had a cross burned on his lawn after treating some female students at Michigan Normal College.

"And the banks were tough," Bass said. "We couldn't get anything, even up to the 1950s. They'd want you to mortgage

your house before they gave you any money."

Bass worked at the American Legion and for the Ypsilanti Public Schools after he left Ford, and volunteered with children in the recreation department. He said sports helped unite blacks and whites.

"I used to play a lot of sports, we had a mixed baseball team," he said. "On one ball team, they were white and I was colored, and I'd represent the city of Ypsilanti. We played all over the state and Canada, and one year we won the state championship."

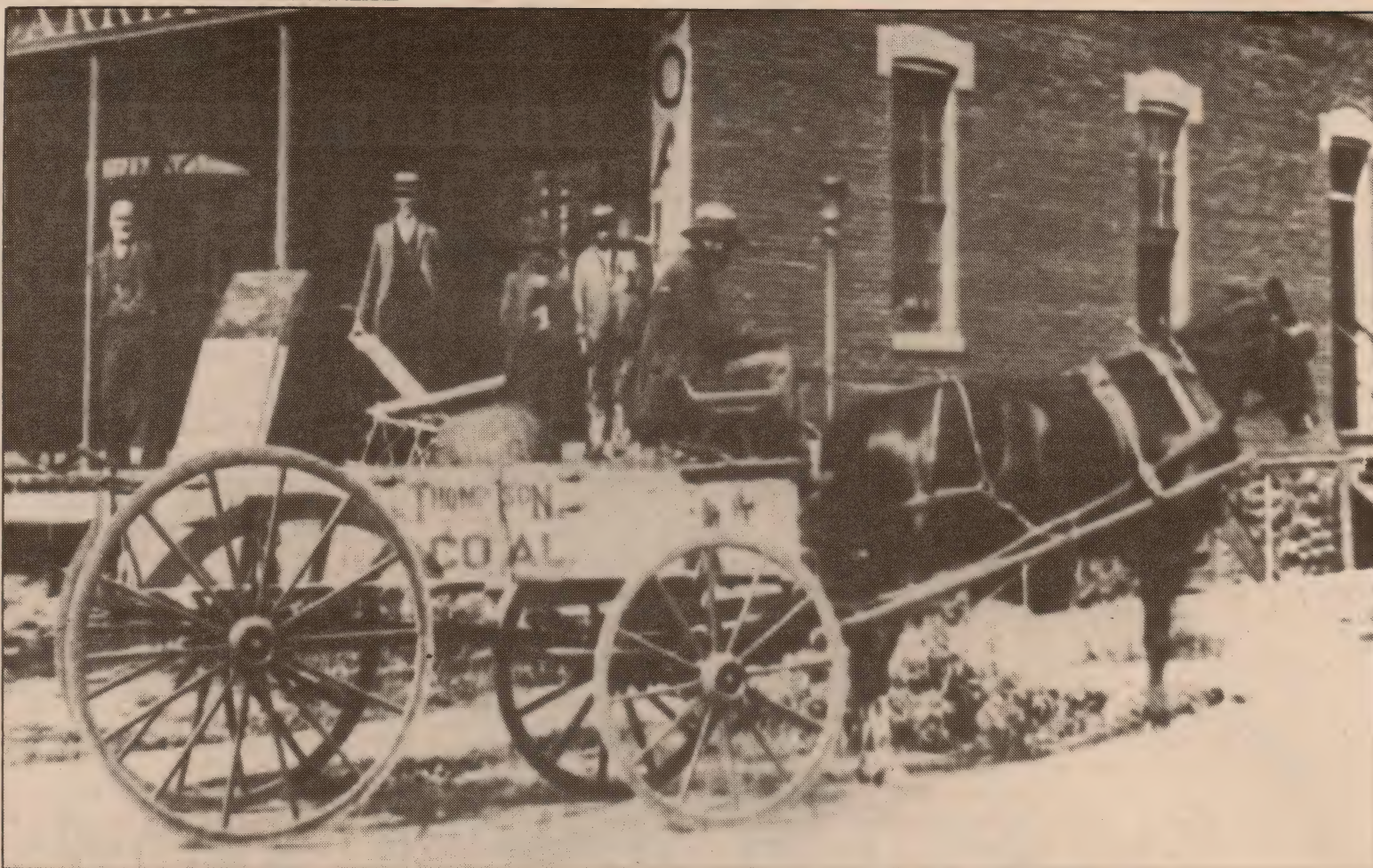
By World War II, the second influx of blacks arrived in Ypsilanti. Many came from the South to work in factories engaged in the war effort.

Besides the Willow Run Village, many of the new arrivals were sent to the area of Harriet and Huron, where tent villages were erected.

"They hired a bunch of them, right off the street," Bass said. "They built trailers for them, then they'd bring them in by the trucks."

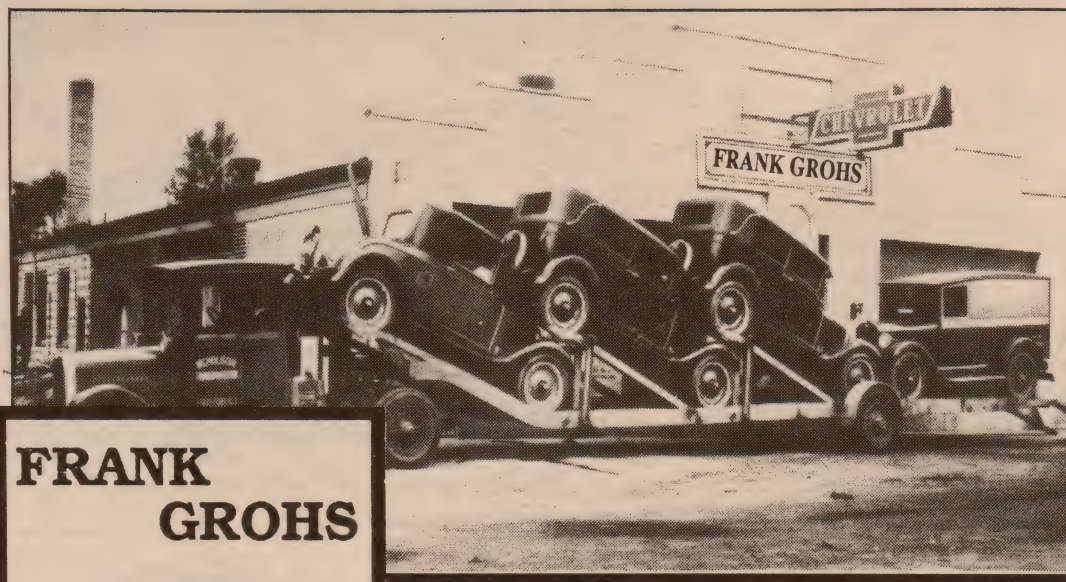
Patsy Chandler was one of the new black "settlers" of the 1940s. She came with her husband from Louisiana after his mother moved to Ypsilanti.

"It was a lot different," she said, laughing. "I came here to (See ROOTS, Page 51)



"The banks were tough. We couldn't get anything, even up to the 1950s. They'd want you to mortgage your house before they gave you any money."

-Moses Bass, longtime resident



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Settlers

(Continued from Page 41)
Punk Quirk. Here, he helped to organize the First National Bank of Ypsilanti, now Bank One, and the Detroit-Hillsdale Railroad.

According to city archives, the senior Quirk also joined six other partners to invest \$100,000 and organize the Ypsilanti Woolen Manufacturing Co., near the Forest Avenue bridge early in 1865.

They planned to make woolen blankets for the Union Army at \$2 per yard, but the war ended and making the blankets soon became unprofitable. The business, under other partners in 1875, made woolen yarns and knitted goods until 1889 and then underwear. Quirk became a partner in the new business in 1893.

"We've seen things change," Punk Quirk said in his office in the Trustcorp Bank building. He also recalled the stories his aunt, Jennie Quirk Cornwell, told at the family homestead at 206 N. Huron St. She lived to

age 100.

The Quirk homestead, built in the 1860s, was the last home in Ypsilanti built by Delos Showerman before he moved to Detroit. William Deubel, a member of a mill-owning family in Ypsilanti, owned the house before Quirk.

Both Mary and James Weir, now of Ann Arbor, also are descendants of prominent Ypsilanti families.

Mary Weir, now an Ann Arbor resident, is William Deubel's great-granddaughter, through her mother, Dee Deubel Cameron. Her husband, is a grandson and great-grandson of Ypsilanti mayors, Parmenio Davis (1861-64 and 1868-70) and Don Davis (1898-99).

"I don't feel like a pioneer," Mary Weir said. "My aunt was more interested; I'm not a great one on family history." Her aunt, DeLynn Deubel, married Anthony Whitmire, a violin professor at the University of Michigan.

In 1875, William Deubel ac-

quired the Ypsilanti City Mill, built in April 1838 by Mark Norris on East Cross Street near Frog Island. Norris's son-in-law, Benjamin Follett, later joined him in the mill. Follett also built a hotel at 17-25 E. Cross St.

In 1873, Deubel's sons, William H. Deubel and James P. Deubel, bought the Huron Mill for \$19,000 from Nathan Follett, Benjamin Follett's father.

Parmenio Davis, an Ypsilanti physician, also was a great-great-grandfather of Laurence W. Thomas, 62, a writer and semi-retired English teacher at Eastern Michigan University and Washtenaw Community College.

Davis' granddaughter and Thomas's grandmother, Mary Ellen (Mamie) Wallace, married Herbert Hopkins. Hopkins and his son-in-law, Laurence M. Thomas, founded an insurance agency in 1922. It's now Hopkins-Thomas and Blair Inc., headed by Brad Blair.

Atwood R. McAndrew Jr., retired president of the InterFirst Federal Savings Bank, traces his Ypsilanti roots back to Helen Walker McAndrew, Ypsilanti's first woman physician, and William McAndrew, a cabinetmaker who built Ypsilanti's first "octagon house" at 16 S. Huron St. in 1853-54.

Both born in Scotland, Helen Walker and William McAndrew married in 1849 and sailed for New York. They arrived in Ypsilanti by way of Baltimore, Detroit and Rawsonville.

William McAndrew, who made furniture at Rawsonville, also was a partner in an Ypsilanti furniture and undertaking business at 125 W. Michigan. Among his partners was Capt. James N. Wallace, who married into Parmenio Davis's family.

Thomas W. McAndrew, son of William, worked for the firm, and, after it dissolved in 1876, quickly continued the family name in the furniture business in a partnership with George McElcheran. To the First National Bank of Ypsilanti, now Bank One, the business became known as Mack and Mack.

Thomas's son, Atwood McAndrew Sr., joined the firm in 1906, and Atwood McAndrew Jr. succeeded his father in 1947.

Peter Fletcher, president of the Credit Bureau of Ypsilanti

Inc., has roots in the Lambie family, early settlers of Ypsilanti since 1839.

In 1844, William Lambie, bought part of the farm, on Geddes Road between Prospect and LeForge, now in Superior Township. A diary he wrote from 1864 to 1871 has become part of Ypsilanti's historic lore.

William Lambie's grandson and Peter Fletcher's father, Foster Fletcher, was Ypsilanti city historian.

In his centennial history of Ypsilanti, Harvey C. Colburn wrote that commercial and political motives brought settlers to the Midwest, not the quest for religious freedom that had attracted their ancestors to New England.

Ypsilanti began as a trading post in 1809, when Gabriel Godfroy, Francois Pepin and Romaine LaChambre began bartering with Indians from a log cabin near the Huron River. The trading post, known to later settlers as Godfroy's on the Pottawatomie Trail, was burned twice before they abandoned it about 1820.

Benjamin Woodruff, a school-teacher born in Morristown, N.J., arrived at the Huron River in the spring of 1823 from Sandusky, Ohio, with his brother-in-law, William Eiclor, after the Credit Bureau of Ypsilanti

(See Settlers, Page 47)



Press photo by Mark Mueller

Atwood McAndrew Jr., great-grandson of William and Helen Walker McAndrew. William built the city's first octagon house.



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Press photo

Eaglin molded the local NAACP into a powerful instrument of social change in the 1960s. The chapter formed in 1917.

Progress

(Continued from Page 39)

Others soon joined Neely in making known their dissatisfaction with the system. The coming together of a few people to form the Black Business and Professional Club in the early 1940s was one case in point of people fed up with the system. This group's first efforts to get streets paved and running water to homes spurred them on to other efforts, such as street lighting. Members of this group included Hattie Clark, Thomas Bass, Tillie Taylor, Herbert Francois, Jesse Rutherford, Charles E. Beatty and Amos Washington. Other groups, such as the Palm Leaf Club, joined the effort.

A steady job in the 1940s and 1950s did not assure the availability of home loans. It was not unusual to see people living in partially completed houses on the South Side. They bought materials as they could afford them.

Politics became a proving ground for African Americans, and after James Seymour's service on the City Council, others saw this as a place to push their own agendas. John Burton followed Seymour, and this led to his becoming the first Mayor of color in the state in 1967. Others who have sought and won seats on council include Samuel

and John Bass. Mattie Dorsey, William Paul Clay, Charles Jackson, Eula M. Tate, Jerome Strong, Albert Robinson, and George Goodman.

A life time resident of Ypsilanti, George D. Goodman lost his first run for City Council, but won the second handily. Within two years after sitting with this body he was electee Mayor, a position he held for the next 10 years. This was a longer tenure than any previous mayor. He resigned to become the Director of the Michigan Municipal League in Ann Arbor.

Each of these African Americans came to City Council with agendas to serve all the people, but showing particular interest in minorities. Public housing can be considered a major accomplishment of Mayor Burton. Goodman was mayor during one of the city's most trying periods but was able to keep the confidence of a majority of the people. Employment of minorities at various levels of city government, and the securing of federal- and state-grant funds to promote city programs was also a strong suit during his administration.

As employment opportunities opened to minorities in the public schools, they also opened in (See PROGRESS, Page 46)



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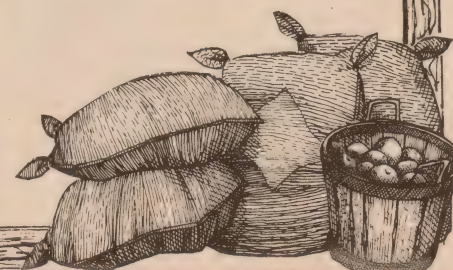
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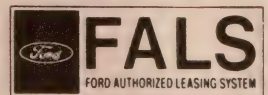
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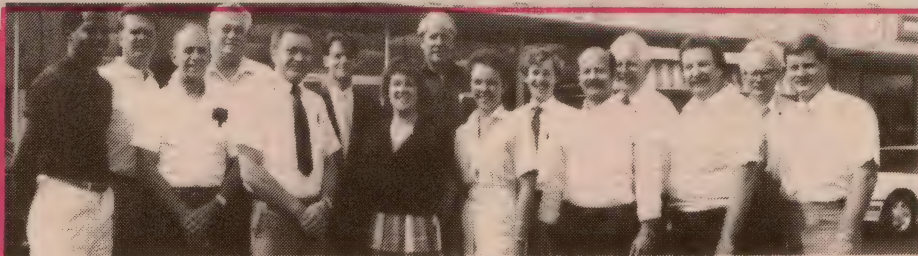


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Progress

(Continued from Page 44) business and industry. This availability also tended to open in business and industry. This availability tended to ease frustrations of African Americans, many of whom had claimed that all they wanted was opportunity. Parents urged more strongly than ever the completion of high school by their children and attendance at academic or technical training centers. No longer could African American children truthfully complain that there were no role models among their own. They were all around.

As credentials and training became more important, Ypsilanti could pride itself in a number of well-qualified African Americans. John Porter became the President of Eastern Michigan University; Matt Hennessee became the City Manager;

James Hawkins became School Superintendent. John Barfield's business expanded beyond all expectations, while a famous restaurant which once refused service to minorities was purchased by a couple of men, one of whom was a minority.

Amos Washington became the first minority member of the Board of Education in the 1940s. He was followed by Dr. Lawrence Perry, a dentist, there have been no boards since that time which did not have at least one African American as a member. Among those who have served with dignity are Douglas Harris, James D. Hall, Charles E. Beatty, Sr., and Jinnesee Dabney who serves currently; and who has been board president.

Mayor Don Milford appointed the Charter Commission on Human Rights in the



DR. THOMAS J. BASS

1960s. This advisory body had the responsibility of recommending a blueprint for improv-

ing race relations in the city. Members included Sidney Rood, Marguerite Eaglin, S.L. Roberson, William J. Daniel, Clyde Widmayer (replaced by Marjorie Sanzi), James B. Cosgrove (replaced by Ethel O'Connor), Walfred Erickson, Beth Milford, Israel Woronoff, and Leo P. Broderick.

Margaret Eaglin molded the NAACP into an effective group to press for employment opportunities. Important assistance was given to her by Paul Was- son, Herbert Francois, Sr., Dr. Thomas Bass, and Ed Morris.

this group also pushed for equal housing opportunity, another successful advancement.

As African Americans continue to push for complete inclusion in the economic and social fabric of the Ypsilanti community, there is an awareness of major obstacles on all fronts. At the same time it is important to recognize that the American system has come to the point of providing guarantees to all citizens. It is for that reason that we can say with pride that our community does offer a blueprint for progress.

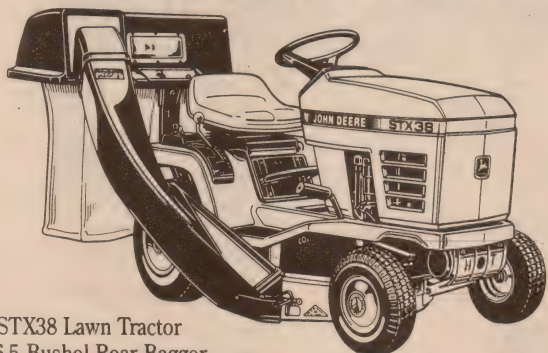


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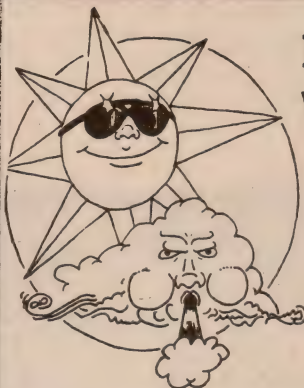
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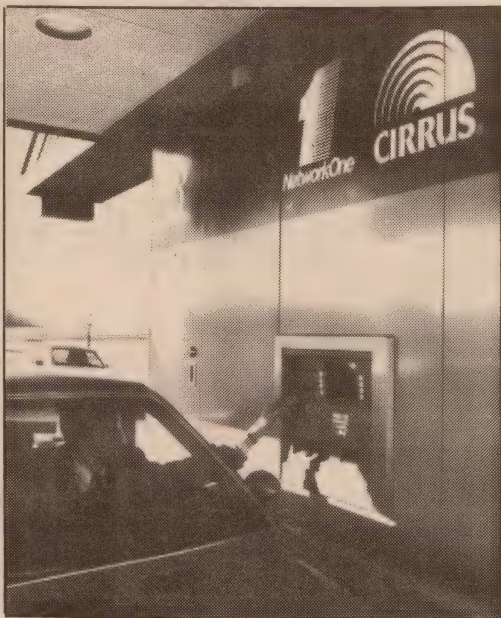
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Settlers

(Continued from Page 43) they decided to set out for the Michigan wilderness.

Woodruff's wife had just inherited several hundred dollars from her grandfather's estate, "and it seemed wise to invest the money where land was cheap," Colburn wrote in *The Story of Ypsilanti*.

A number of other settlers joined Woodruff's party at Monroe.

The 1830 federal census records 4,042 residents of Washtenaw County, but only 10 years later, the county had 23,572

residents. The increase reflects Michigan's doubling its population in the three years before statehood in 1837.

In the 1850 federal census, the first that recorded national origins of the population, about 55,000 of the residents of Michigan's 400,000 residents were foreign-born, and more than 33,000 of them were from England, Ireland and Germany. Most of the population growth in the 1840s came from other states, particularly from New York, according to census figures.

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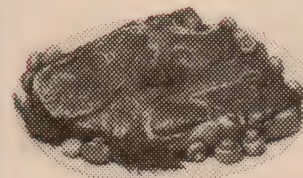
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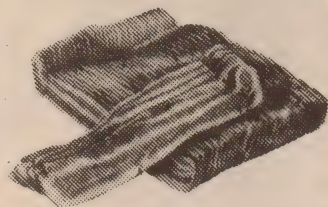
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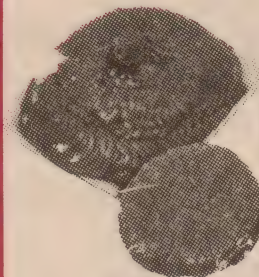
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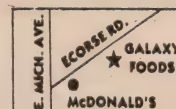
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Firefighters

This photo shows the members of the Ypsilanti Fire Department in front of the old fire station on West Cross about 1930. From left are: Joseph O. Green, Gene Harris, George Sanders, Gerald Kelly, James Fitzpatrick and Kerner, Alonzo Miller-Chief, two unidentified firefighters, Maurice Mal- lion, Jack Hadley, Russell "Tiny" Forsyth, Sumner Coleman, Charles of the old fire station on West Cross about 1930. From left are: Joseph O. Green, Gene Harris, George Sanders, Gerald Kelly, James Fitzpatrick and Kerner, Alonzo Miller-Chief, two unidentified firefighters, Maurice Mal- Julius "Jay" Wagner. The photo was submitted by Philip W. Stokes.



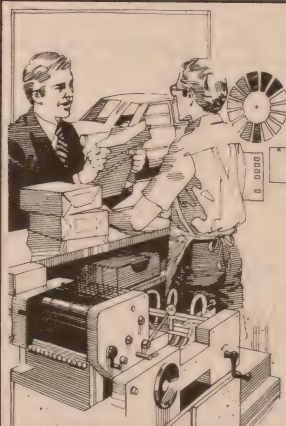
Resting along the railroad

This photo shows Aretas A. Bedell relaxing near the Ypsilanti Depot flower beds in 1900 when he was 24 years old. The life-long resident went on to become a conductor on the Michigan Central Railroad. He died in 1968 at age 92. The photo was submitted by Roger Katon, Bedell's nephew.

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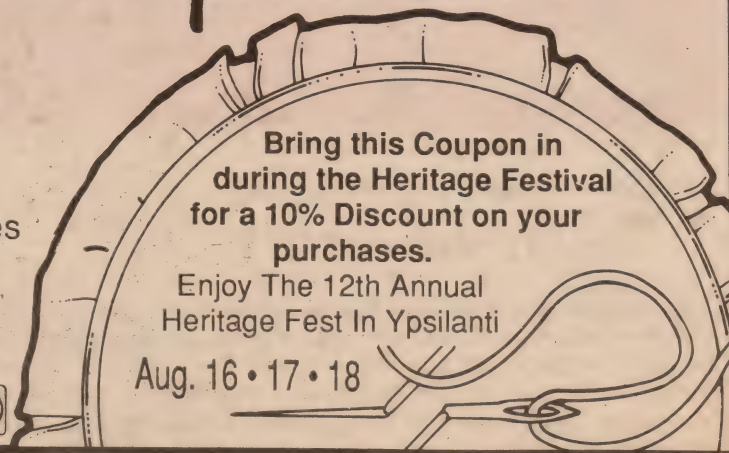
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Aug. 16 • 17 • 18

Roots

(Continued from Page 42)

get rid of prejudice because there was so much in the South, but when I got here I found just about as much as where I left.

"That's one of the things I worked against."

Chandler lived on Monroe Street, and moved into the then-new Parkridge Projects before buying a home about 13 years ago. Her husband, James, worked at Central Specialty, now Motor Wheel Corp.

Later, the Chandlers set up one of the first post-war black-owned businesses. Called James' Watch Shop and built on Michigan Avenue near Adams Street, the site now holds Eastern Michigan University's College of Business structure.

Chandler has volunteered with several area organizations, and held her 33rd annual birthday celebration in March to honor local black leaders and raise money for civic improvements. One of her efforts, a bust of educator Eugene Beatty, will be dedicated at Perry School in September.

Beatty, a former Michigan Normal College track star, came to Ypsilanti in the 1930s and established a career as a teacher, principal and member of the Board of Education.

Along with the rest of the country, things began to change in Ypsilanti during the 1960s. Floyd Walls became the city's first black firefighter in 1966.

"It's an honor to be the first black, but a lot of people had to learn to get along," he said.

Walls said the late 1960s was a time of racial growth for Ypsilanti, signalled by the election of John Burton as first black mayor in 1967.

By the time Walls left the department in 1988, firefighters included three blacks and one woman.

"We worked within the system and changed things, but we didn't lower the standards when we left," he said.

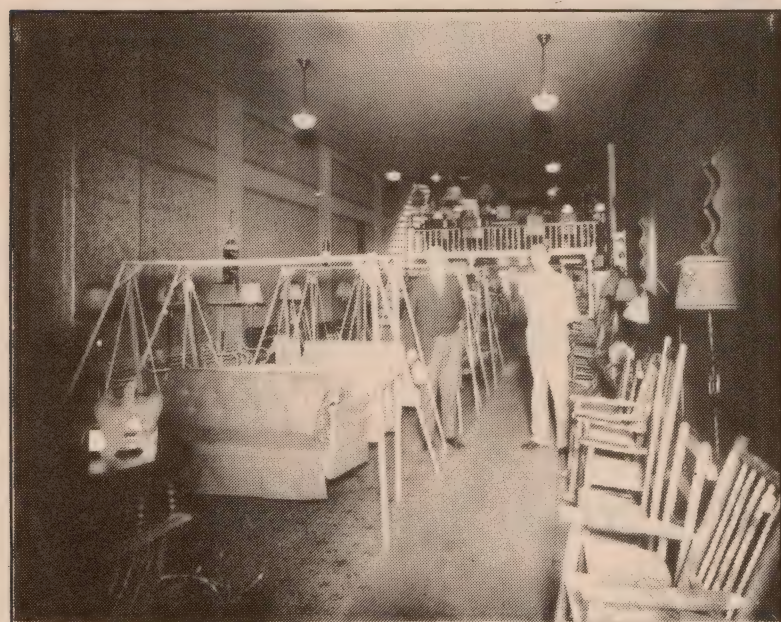
Bass family members also made their presence felt: Samuel Bass became the city's first black policeman, John Bass served on City Council and Melvin Bass is a city building inspector.

Throughout the years, black residents of Ypsilanti have proven their value, dedication and commitment to the area.

They have built their homes, worshiped in their churches and raised their families here, a place where many of their forefathers sought refuge.

Although the town has let them down in the past, Ypsilanti has benefited from the contributions its black members.

In the future, the partnership between blacks and whites, and all the other ethnic members of the town, can only improve the quality of Ypsilanti.



Home furnishings

This photo shows J.F. (Frank) Augustus, part-owner of Clarke-Augustus Furniture Co., with sales clerk Don Snead on the first floor of the store at 208 W. Michigan Ave. The photo was taken in the 1920s. The photo was submitted by Margaret Haushalter of Ypsilanti, granddaughter of Frank Augustus.



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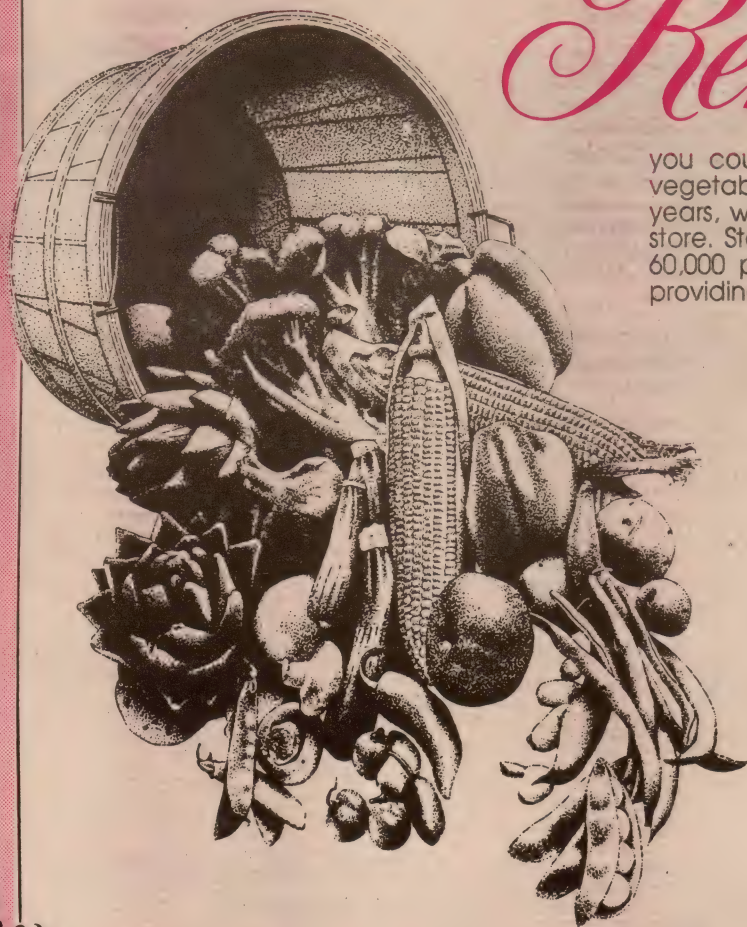
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EMU 'Champion of Students' now fix-it, gardening star in retirement

By BECKY ALLEN
Press Staff Writer

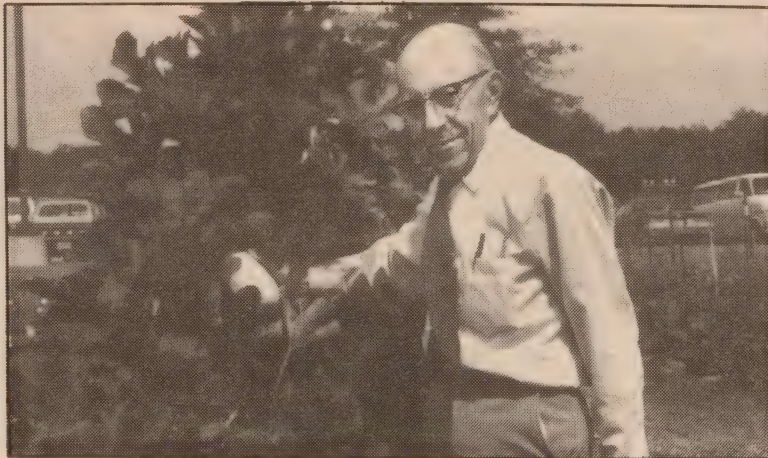
An Ypsilanti man, honored as a "Champion of Students" at Eastern Michigan University, continues in retirement to serve his community in hundreds of ways.

Although he's been retired for 11 years, Everett Marshall, former professor and dean of Academic Records and Teacher Certification at Eastern Michigan University, still has to schedule his time in order to accomplish all of the helpful tasks for which he is known.

Those tasks include visits to a friend in a nursing home, or fixing another person's wheelchair so it's more tailored to their injuries.

Those helpful ways show why he received an honorary degree — Doctor of Humane Letters — from EMU and was given a 6,000-person standing ovation in the process.

"It's important to me because I never experienced that same sort of sensation," he said.



Press photo by Becky Allen

Marshall's proud of his garden produce.

Marshall said the university had to go around and approve the housing for the students in a community which then numbered between 8,000 and 9,000.

At that time there were 11 buildings on campus including the health residence, Pease Auditorium, Boone Hall, old Pierce Hall, Welch, Ford, Sherzer, McKinney, Starkweather and Roosevelt halls and the old field house.

"Now they have over 100 buildings," he said.

Marshall said he and his late wife, Helen, lived in an apartment the first couple of years in town, before buying a house on Sherman Street, where they lived for 39 years.

While Marshall taught, then became EMU registrar (his title was changed much later), his wife worked with the blind and was responsible for getting Braille books in the library.

Marshall said she furnished the paper and machine and did all the work gratis.

Not one to sit back, himself, Marshall became involved with the Ypsilanti Lions Club. He said he's had perfect attendance there for 43 years and continues to attend meetings.

He also is a member of the First United Methodist Church in Ypsilanti.

In 1949, Marshall became registrar of the Michigan State Normal College, as it was known. Ninety-seven percent of the graduates at the time had teaching certificates.

Name changes came on July 1, 1956, Eastern Michigan College; and on June 1, 1959, Eastern Michigan University.

It was a month earlier in 1959 so the students could have the word "University" on their diplomas, he said.

Marshall reluctantly left the university at age 71 because of mandatory retirement, he said.

So he and Helen moved to Glacier Hills where she continued volunteer work in the nursing home and he gradually took

over a large number of the home's flower and vegetable gardens. In 1981-82 the Marshalls were named co-recipients of the Glacier Hills volunteers of the year. They each spent more than 1,000 hours volunteering their time.

Marshall said he enjoyed his years on the EMU campus and added he never heard any complaints about the university in the community.

He agrees that the university has taken bigger steps recently in becoming much more of a force and leader in the community and that is to everyone's advantage.



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Everett L. Marshall

Address: Glacier Hills Retirement Center, Ann Arbor

Birthdate: 1908

Home Town: DeKalb, Ill.

Family: Wife, Helen, died 1986; no children.

Employment: Retired from Eastern Michigan University where he served as Dean of Academic Records and Teacher Certification.

Education: graduated with bachelor's degree in 1930 from Northern Illinois University, obtained masters, 1933, and doctorate, 1936, from University of Iowa.

Hobbies: Gardening, wood-working, repairing things, reading.

Time in Ypsilanti Area: 51 years.

When Marshall retired from EMU in 1979 he received a silver cup from the national championship forensics team. The inscription on the cup reads, "Champion of Students."

Marshall said he was an avid supporter of the group.

The Illinois native came to Ypsilanti in 1938 to teach education and psychology at a college which taught about 18 or 19 majors to some 1,800 students. There are now more than 100 majors, including business which started in 1950.

There were no dorms, although the King-Goodison Halls were under construction. Housing was provided by the community.

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Monsma gets a bird's-eye view of the EMU campus from the walkway of the Water Tower.

Press photo by Paul Hurschmann

EMU and Ypsilanti have found the going is easier when you go...

HAND IN HAND

By BECKY ALLEN
Press Staff Writer

Eastern Michigan University's symbiotic relationship with the Ypsilanti Community goes back to the mid 1800s when the community put in its bid to be host town of the first teachers normal college in the Midwest, according to Everett Marshall, Ph.D.

The retired EMU registrar noted that Ypsilanti offered land in an effort to pull the school its way.

In fact, the town offered about \$13,500 to help pay for the facility, temporary rooms and five-years of salary for the principal.

Other communities in the running were Niles, Marshall, Jackson and Gull Prairie.

The supportive relationship became very visible again in 1943 when federal officials tried to close down the college so the buildings could be used as tem-

porary housing for employees of the bomber plant at Willow Run.

Marshall said the community, which already was providing rooms for students and factory workers, opened up more rooms.

In some places the renters could only have the rooms in eight-hour shifts, he said.

But the "town/gown" relationship has really come to the forefront in the past decade under recently retired EMU President John Porter, said Charles Monsma, a political science professor, downtown landlord and director of the Institute for Community and Regional Development (ICARD).

Monsma said there had never really been any strong antagonism between the two

entities, "what I used to hear...they sort of ignored each other."

But in the past 10 years or so Monsma said "relations with the community have been strengthened and have been good."

He cited the Gary Owen College of Business under construction in downtown Ypsilanti, and the recent construction of the Huron Golf Club and Corporate Education Center along with the Radisson hotel.

Monsma noted that past President Porter was very community oriented. He realized, as did city officials, how important they were to each other.

ICARD was set up under Porter as a way to make EMU resources available for community projects.

'The area has a great deal of diversity and that's an asset to us. In return the presence of a major university is always an asset to the community.'

— William Shelton, president, EMU

An offshoot of that, the Higher Education Consortium for Economic Development, was organized to concentrate the same types of goals on the Ypsilanti area. Monsma also is a member of the consortium, which he unofficially directs, he said.

The consortium, started in 1985, is made up of representatives from EMU, the University of Michigan, Cleary College, Washtenaw Community College and Concordia College.

One of the organization's most important projects is the Water Street development, Monsma said.

This includes some 30 acres south of Michigan Avenue and just east of the Huron River.

Monsma said the consortium has done studies to determine

what property is there and how it best could be used.

"We're talking primarily residences with protected park land by the river," he said.

A financial feasibility study has been done and the city is looking for a developer, he said.

The consortium also works closely with the Ypsilanti Area Chamber of Commerce.

Current projects include putting on seminars for people who run in-home businesses, and the establishment of a committee to study the feasibility of starting an "industrial incubator" in the area.

Monsma said the incubator would be a center for start-up industrial businesses. It would probably be one large building divided up into sections for small businesses.

Past projects have included the coordination of the Ypsilanti Area Industrial Survey in 1986, in cooperation with the Chamber and with Michigan

(See EMU, Page 58)

Ask Ypsi senior citizens how it used to be and you'll get...

Recollections of an era

By STEPHEN GOLDSTEIN
Press Staff Writer

Some long-time residents of the Ypsilanti area agree they found a home here decades ago, usually for economic reasons — in search of work — and often for education.

"My folks came here about 1917," the year he was born in Richmond, said George N. Elliott. A graduate of Ypsilanti High School and Eastern Michigan University, he joined Ypsilanti Savings Bank, now Trustcorp Bank, Ypsilanti, in 1947 and retired in 1979 as executive vice-president and chairman of the board.

"My father had a mortgage on a livery stable and foreclosed on it," he said. The stable then was near where the Mainstreet Restaurant is today, on the south side of Michigan Avenue near the bridge.

Richard Elliott also was a deputy sheriff and ran for sheriff in 1928, his son said.

"I came (to Ypsilanti) after

the war, when Kaiser-Frazer was going great guns," George Elliott said. For about 10 years, Kaiser-Frazer vainly challenged the Big Three automakers from a plant in Willow Run where the General Motors Hydra-matic Division and Chevrolet-Pontiac-Canada plants are today.

Elliott remembered when the Hydra-matic plant in Livonia, supposedly fireproof, burned.

Ypsilanti "used to be kind of sleepy town," he said, but then the Chamber of Commerce adopted a slogan, "Where business and education meet."

An opportunity for education brought Eileen Harrison to Ypsilanti about 1927, but her grandmother, Amy Schofield, also was born here in 1837, only 14 years after the first permanent settlement.

"Once, I asked her about the Civil War," said Harrison, who retired in 1967 after 40 years with The Ypsilanti Press as a proofreader and reporter. She more recently has been recording recollections of other senior residents of the Ypsilanti

area.

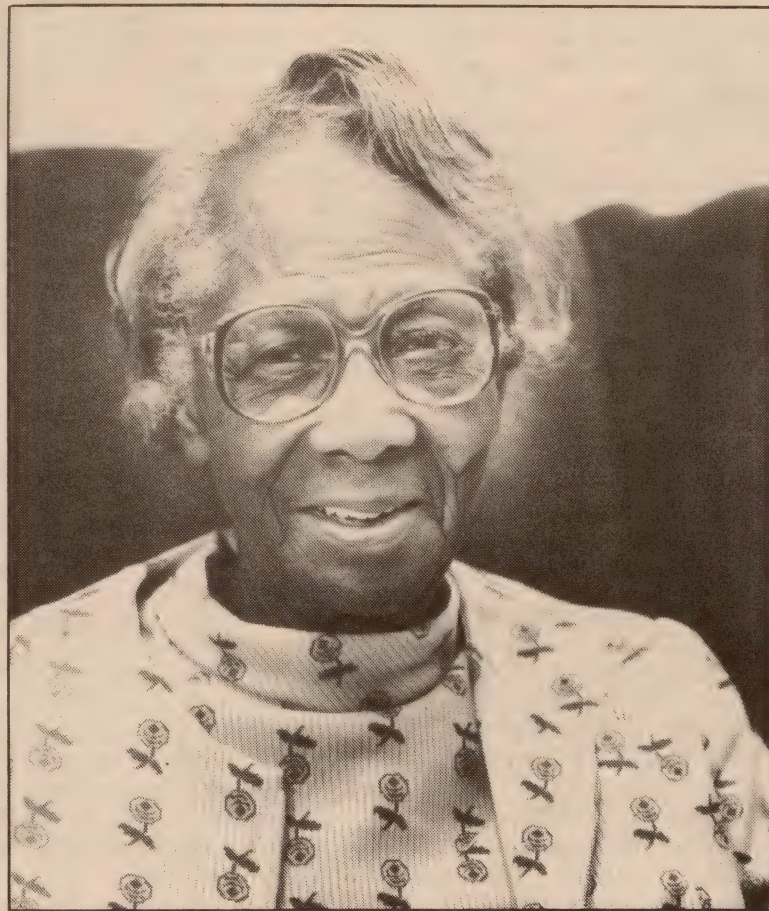
Six generations of her family knew Ypsilanti, she said. "They were particularly interested in education, and they found this a nice place to settle. It's the best place in the world; that's easy to answer," she said.

"When I came here, it was 13,000 friendly people. After the war, that's what changed Ypsilanti, with so many people. I'm just amazed how much it's grown."

In addition to some memorable crimes she covered — a hanging at the federal penitentiary in 1936 or 1937, and the "Torch Murders" near the Peninsular Paper Co., since 1974 a division of the James River Corp. — Harrison also recalled that Henry Ford helped pull Ypsilanti out of the Depression by building plants here.

Doris Milliman, the city historian, also arrived here in 1927 from Erie County in northern Ohio. The "firelands," she said, were named for the settlers burned out of their Connecticut homes by the British during the

(See ERA, Page 56)



Press photo by Paul Hurechmann

Bessie Seed, 92, moved to Ypsi with her family in 1948.

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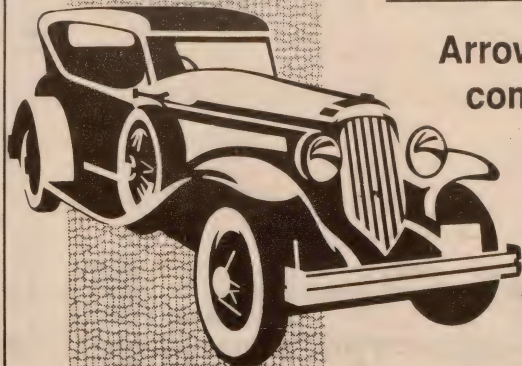
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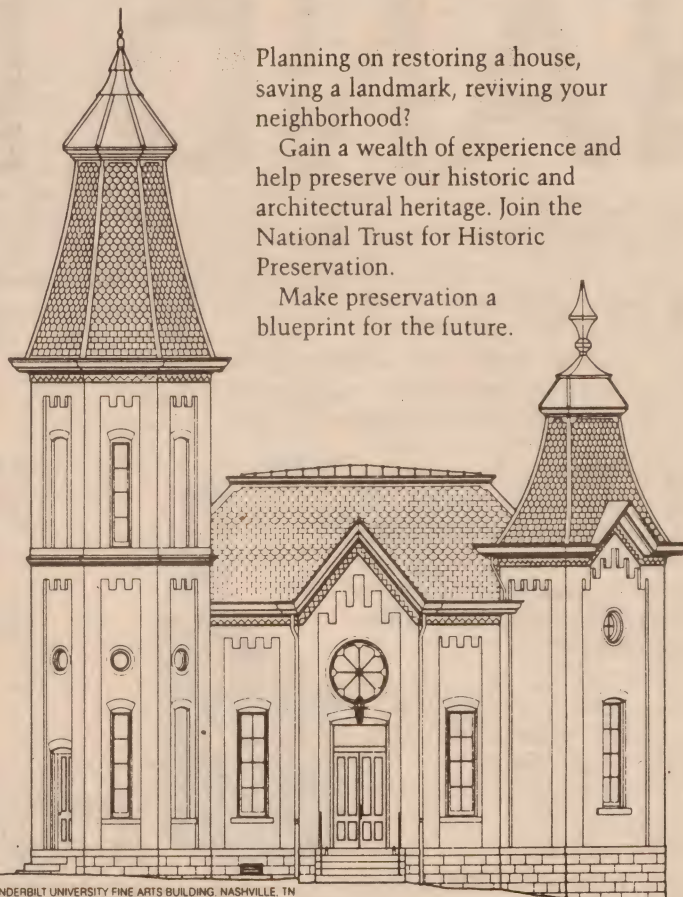
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Era

(Continued from Page 55)
Revolution.

"After we finished school, we all got jobs," said Milliman, who worked in libraries at Wayne State University, Eastern Michigan University and Greenfield Village.

Bessie Seed, who just began her 92nd year, came here with her family in 1948 from Dublin, Ga., mostly for work. The women she knew found domestic work, and the men worked in the lumber yards as the nation moved back to a peacetime economy.

In those days, the wartime rationing of materials ended, and soldiers returning home and their families began building and buying homes and unleashing a pent-up demand for products.

Her husband David and their son Lamar arrived in the area first, finding work with the city of Detroit. Then her husband worked at the Kaiser-Frazer Co.'s Detroit assembly plant.

"In Detroit, there were so many people, we got shelters here," she said, referring to government-built shelters near the Cheney School in Superior Township.

"Those were some of the best days we'd seen, when we lived in those shelters," she said from her home nearby. "We could get a bus out here to Detroit for 10 cents."

Jessie Fuller, her sister, said, "When they got work, they seemed to get new hope for a new life."

Jack Miller, Ypsilanti's well-known Hudson dealer, said his ancestors — Millers, Craigs and McCartys — came from Ireland and Germany, as did so much of the local population.

His grandfather, Louis Miller, sold his farm and opened a livery stable near where Smith Furniture is today. The farm burned in 1906, and he rebuilt it, but he moved here between 1910 and 1915, Jack Miller said.

Carl Miller, his father, worked in the livery stable and for a taxi line in Ann Arbor, before he and Alex Longnecker opened a Hudson dealership here in 1933. It became Miller Motors in 1957.

Oscar Haab, 82, and his brother Otto, opened Haab's Restaurant in downtown Ypsilanti in 1934. "We're from Ann Arbor and Freedom Township," he said from his home in Pittsfield Township.

"We were early settlers in Michigan, before it was a state," he said of his German and Swiss ancestors who came here about 1829 or 1830. "Things were pretty wild then."

He and his brother, he said,

"got out of college at the time the Depression was on in the early '30s. I had training as a teacher, but there were no jobs, so we started a restaurant," the Old German Restaurant, still in Ann Arbor at Ashley and Washington. "But we didn't like the hours."

In downtown Ypsilanti, they bought a vacant building that Charles Smith had run as a saloon had been, and they added two more buildings to make Haab's what it is today. Mike Kabat, a former employee, and Harvey Glaze now own the downtown landmark.

"Lots of things brought us to Ypsilanti," Haab said. "It's a real good area, with a good educational foundation. I think business facilities are really good, and there are good industries in Ypsilanti."

Karl Tunncliffe, who will be 92 this month, has been an Ypsilanti resident for 50 years, but his work for the Detroit Edison Co. kept him on the road from Lansing to Toledo, trimming trees for overhead lines and laying out power lines. He retired from the company in 1962, after 42 years' service.

He recalled Ypsilanti once had about five light towers, each with four lamps, and he remembered streetcars running between Jackson and Detroit through Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti.

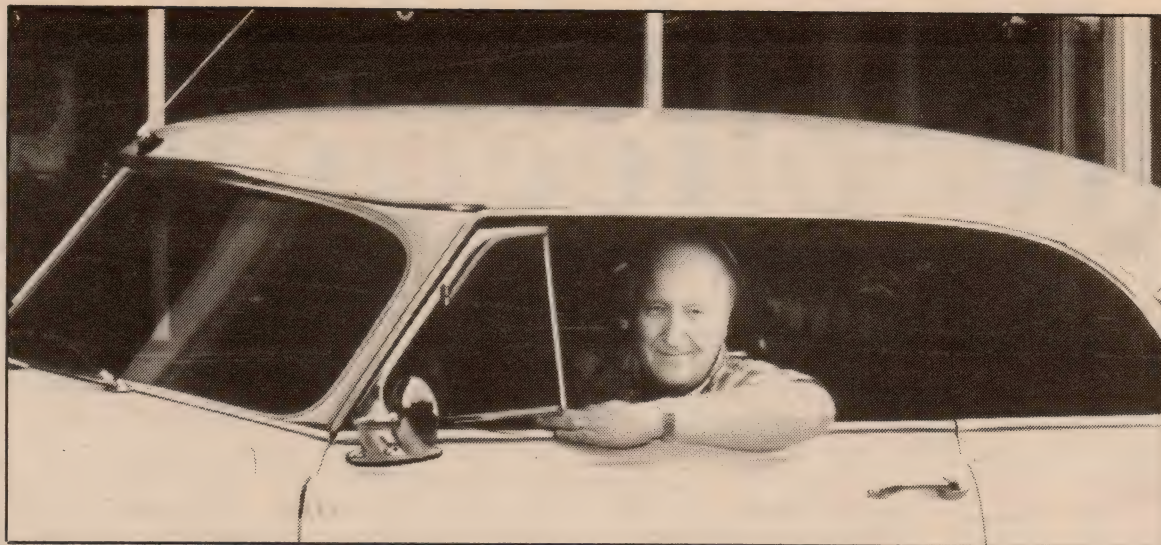
Both he and Eileen Harrison recalled the railroad car barns on East Michigan Avenue, just east of the river, near where Suburban Cadillac-Pontiac-Honda is now. The Moose Lodge and an A&P were there, too, said Tunncliffe, who was commander of American Legion Post 282 in 1944 and, for about three years during World War II, a member of the Washtenaw County Selective Service Board.

"As far as I'm concerned, it's been as good a place as anywhere else," he said of Ypsilanti. "I had no complaints."



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Press photo by Paul Hurschmann

Jack Miller in one of his antique automobiles

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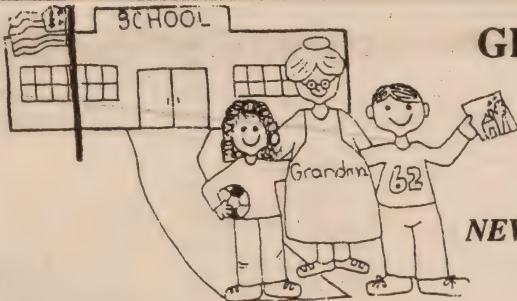
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Blowing their horns


The photo above shows the Ypsilanti High School Drum and Bugle Corps in 1936. The corps was organized by Norris Wiltse as an honor organization, with each of the girls being chosen on the basis of scholarship, citizenship, leadership and service. It was the counterpart of the John F. Barnhill Boys Band. At left is drum major Martha Wolter. The photos were submitted by Roger Katon.



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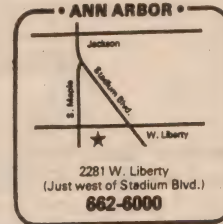
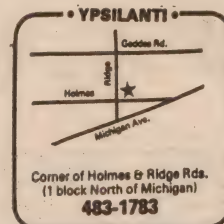
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EMU

(Continued from Page 54)
Bell.

Monsma said the survey sought to find out how local business evaluated local government and services. It also asked for future plans.

Results of the survey came out in 1988 and recommendations have been implemented, including educational training.

More projects which have taken place are the computerized property inventory of downtown Ypsilanti, a faculty database which provides help for local business according to need. Monsma said EMU class members have worked on art projects, conducted surveys and worked on a photo streetscape which the consortium hopes to have turned into architectural renderings eventually.

New EMU President William Shelton, a member of the community since early June, said he is excited about the possibilities the community holds.

"The area has a great deal of diversity and that's an asset to us," he said. In return the presence of a major university is always an asset to the community.

"There is a genuine interest in making our community a good place to live and work," Shelton said.



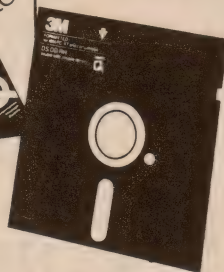
Press photo by Paul Hurschmann

EMU is expanding its campus downtown with the construction of the College of Business.

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The Boone Family came here in search of jobs but they ended up...

BUILDING A FAMILY TRADITION

By PAULA DOHRING
Press Staff Writer

A still-used antique rolling pin passed down from her grandmother represents two of the most important parts of Johnnie Boone's life: family and food.

Boone's family dinners, held at her Jefferson Street home every Sunday and holiday, have become part of the heritage of her neighborhood and Metropolitan Memorial Baptist Church, where she worships every week before calling her brood to the table.

There, in shifts, she serves her 11 surviving children, 64 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, their spouses and friends, along with some neighbors and church folk.

And just about all of them say it's the best food they've ever eaten.

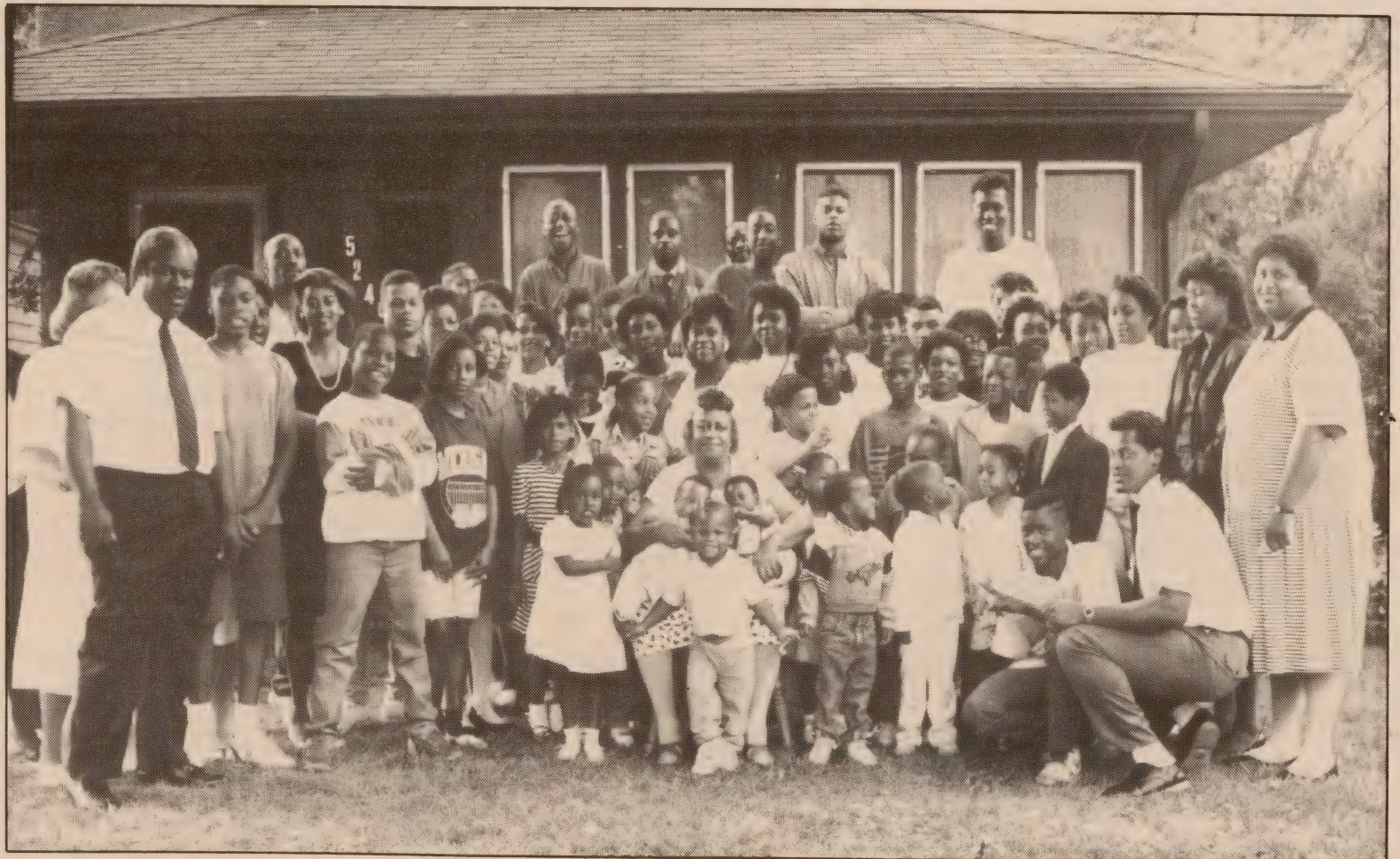
"Mama's the best cook in town," said Boone's oldest daughter, Edith Eddins. "Everybody knows her around here, and she's a mother to everybody."

Boone, now 61, came to Ypsilanti from Georgia in 1944. She was a 15-year-old bride married to a 17-year-old man seeking a job at Central Specialty.

"We came to work in the defense plant and lived in Willow Run Village," Boone said. "It was just exciting to come to Michigan, but it took a long time to feel like home."

Said Eddins, who grew up in the temporary housing: "They had cardboard walls. They called it Clay Hill, and when you mention it, everyone knows what you're talking about. We stayed there about 15 years."

"Even though it was still Ypsilanti, all the hospitals and things were in the city. In Willow Run, it was like two differ-



The Boone Family enjoys getting together for Sunday dinners.

Press photo by Paula Dohring

ent areas."

Eddins said she has often thought about writing a book about her days on Clay Hill.

"My best times were growing up in the Willow Run barracks in the joint apartments," she said. "We had a lot of fun, even with the old wood stoves and coal boxes. We were never bored."

The family left the area when the housing was torn down. About that time, Boone's husband left her to raise her family by herself.

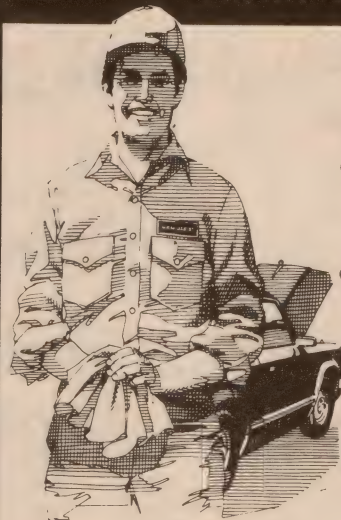
"She had a hard time raising us, but she did the best she could," Eddins said.

The family moved to the Apleridge subdivision, near Ridge Road, and lived in several places throughout the city before Boone bought her house, the largest on Jefferson Street.

The tradition of family dinners began 21 years ago, one day after Boone cooked all the food for the 300 people attending Eddins' wedding.

"I was married on a Saturday, then on Sunday we were locked out of our apartment, so we went to Mama's," Eddins said. "As my brothers and sisters marry, they continue to do the same thing. Now the kids (See FAMILY, Page 63)

ONE DAY SERVICE



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Larry and his staff welcome you to the 11th Annual Heritage Festival

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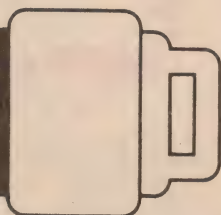
HOURS:
M-F 8:30-6
Sat. 8:30-4
Evenings By Appointment

42 N. Huron

Answers to TRIVIALANTI from Page 38

1. McBride works in the White House as President George Bush's personal aide.
2. Driscoll Court, just north of downtown off Ballard Street.
3. On Frog Island.
4. The point formed by the intersection of Grove Road and Prospect Street. The site is marked with a state historical marker mounted on a large stone.
5. Depot Town.
6. The Sauk Trail.
7. Iggy Pop, whose real name is James Osterberg.
8. The Thompson Building, at the northeast corner of River and Cross streets.
9. The Cincinnati Bengals, who have 1978 YHS graduate Rodney Holman, a tight end, and 1983 graduate Eric Ball, a running back.
10. Dann Florek

As a result of
the Michigan Adult
Restraint Law



\$548.1 Million
saved in costs
to society

Source: Office of Highway Safety Planning, Michigan State Police

ON BEHALF OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCILMEMBERS

"YPSILANTI —

THE CITY THAT WORKS"

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1989 YPSILANTI HERITAGE FESTIVAL!



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Eula M. Tate
Kevin M. Hurlahe

Michael W. Homel
Kevin McCormick
James Brown, Jr.
Charles Soule

Sue Homeyer
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Mayor Pro-Tem
Daniel Hoffman

City Offices:

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Building Inspection..... 482-1025
City Clerk..... 483-1100
City Attorney..... 483-9642
City Manager..... 483-1810
Community Development..... 483-9646
Dept. of Public Works..... 483-1421
Finance Department..... 483-1105
Fire Department
Emergency..... 482-3311
Non-Emergency..... 482-9778
Farmer's Market..... 483-1480
Housing Commission..... 482-4300

Main Street Project..... 483-6680
Museum..... 482-4990
Ordinance Enforcement..... 483-9510
Parkridge Community Center..... 483-7700
Personnel Department..... 483-1242
Pool..... 485-1022
Police Department
Emergency..... 483-2311
Information..... 483-9510
Tip Line..... 483-3131
Senior Citizen Center..... 483-5014
Treasurer..... 483-1103
Zoning Department..... 483-9646

P & L MINIATURES

Go To The
Heritage Festival
and
Stop By & See Us

18 N.
Washington
Ypsilanti
483-4960

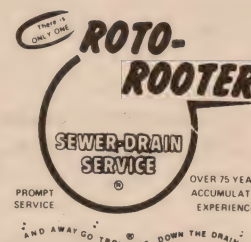
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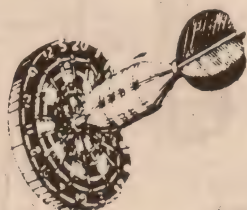
M - SAT 9-9 SUN 12-5

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PEPSI
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Big industry

This photo shows the Peninsular Paper Co. Mill #2 in 1873. Peninsular is now the James River Corp.



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America clean.

it's Summer

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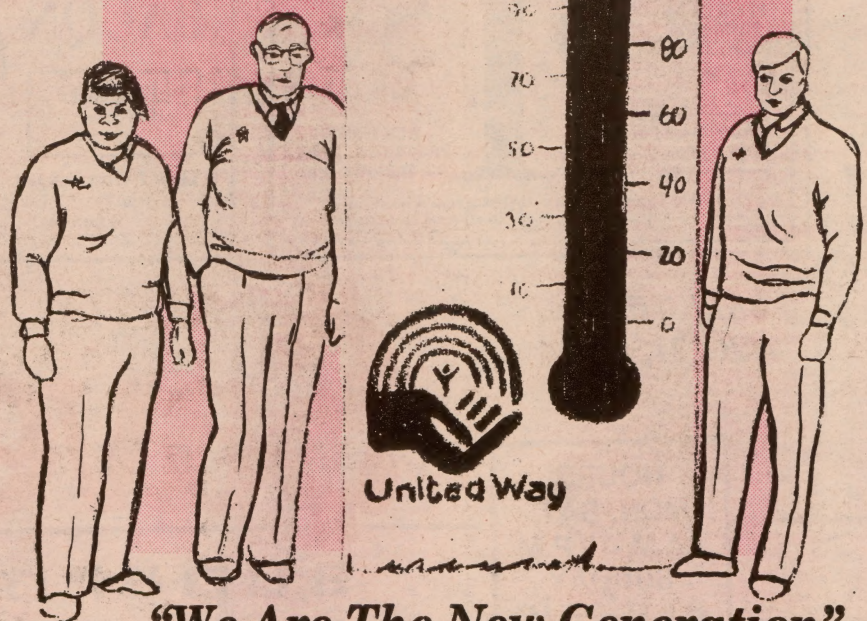
People

Achieving Excellence

Motor Wheel Corporation, a member of the Ypsilanti Industrial Community, extends a warm welcome to the Annual Ypsilanti Heritage Festival. Like the Heritage Festival, Motor Wheel has a proud tradition, a bright future, and a deep belief in community involvement.



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Heritage Festival Weekend ~ Specials ~

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**NORTHERN
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79¢

4 Roll Pkg. **SAVE 65¢**

Limit 1 With Any Purchase
Additional Purchase \$1.19

Triple Coupons Monday • Tuesday • Wednesday

**BIG CHIEF
SUGAR**



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4 Lb. Bag **SAVE 80¢**

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Additional Purchase \$1.19

Triple Coupons Monday • Tuesday • Wednesday

**SPRINGDALE
1/2% LOW FAT
MILK**



99¢

Plastic Gallon **SAVE 70¢**

Limit 2 With Any Purchase
SUNKIST WHITE BREAD - 20 Oz. 3/\$1

SAVEWEL BONUS COUPON
Good Thru Monday, August 21, 1989

PEPSI SALE



PEPSI, DIET PEPSI,
PEPSI LIGHT,
PEPSI FREE,
MOUNTAIN DEW

\$1.57

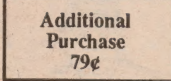
8 Pk.
1/2 Liter **Plus Deposit**

Additional Purchase \$1.98 Plus Deposit
ALL PEPSI PRODUCTS 2 Ltr. Btl. \$1.39 Plus Dep.

Limit 1 With Coupon • Subject to Applicable State & Local Taxes
Coupons Not Available In Store • Limit One Coupon Per Customer

SAVEWEL BONUS COUPON
Good Thru Monday, August 21, 1989

**COLUMBIA
SLICED
BACON**



49¢

Additional Purchase 79¢
12 Oz. Pkg.

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Limit One Coupon Per Customer

SAVEWEL BONUS COUPON
Good Thru Monday, August 21, 1989

**FARM FRESH
GRADE A
LARGE
EGGS**



49¢

Additional Purchase 69¢ Doz.

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Limit One Coupon Per Customer

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UP TO 50¢ — Details In Store

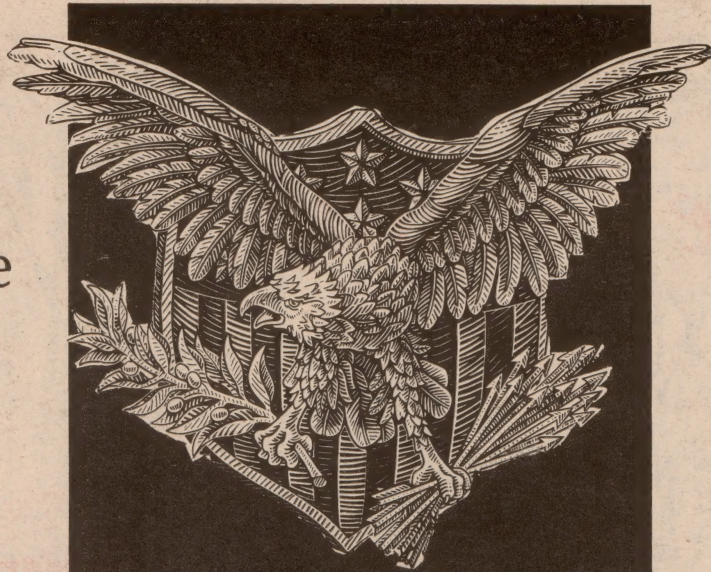
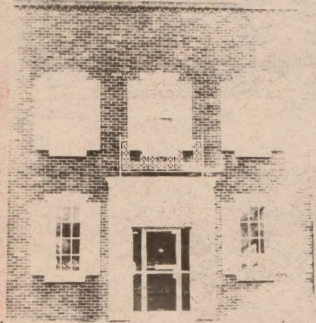
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Not the biggest...just the best."

**'It was just exciting to come to
Michigan, but it took a long
time to feel like home.'**

**—Johnnie Boone, longtime
Ypsilanti Resident**

Family

(Continued from Page 59)

have a heritage of being at
Grandma Boone's house."

A typical meal will include
two turkeys with dressing, two
hams, sweet potato souffle, two
bushels of collard greens and
gallons of homemade ice cream.

"She uses huge pots and can't
make a small amount of food,"
Eddins said. "And she doesn't
use recipes, she doesn't mea-
sure anything. When she got
married, she said she couldn't
even boil water."

Boone said she doesn't like to
praise herself, so her family
does it for her. They said
Boone's reputation as a cook
and seamstress draws com-
ments from all over Ypsilanti.

Her children range in age
from 28 to 43. The youngest
family member is two months
old, and another is due by
Christmas.

During the week, when din-

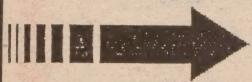
ners aren't served, Boone's fam-
ily still fills the house, porch
and yard. They said they come
to "Mama's" because they love
her so much.

"The children feel lost if we
don't go," said Eddins. "All of
their lives, this is all they re-
member."

Their get-togethers have
forged a strong bond among
Boone's offspring. They now
have deep roots in the area:
About half of her children live
within walking distance, and 10
of them live in Ypsilanti. One
daughter moved to Southfield,
but she and her family drive in
every week.

Also included in the family is
former Ypsilanti Police Chief
Jimmy Moore, Boone's brother.

"I do this to keep the family
together," Boone said of the tre-
mendous amount of work she
puts into her gatherings. "We're
family and we're supposed to
love each other."



On The Move

Willow Run Community Schools

Dr. Youssef Yomtoob, Superintendent



PROGRAMS WE OFFER STUDENTS AND OUR COMMUNITY:

K-12 PROGRAM

Early Childhood Development Center
• Preschool and Kindergarten

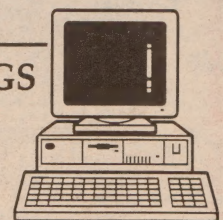
Elementary
• Grades 1-5

Middle School
• Grades 6 - 8

High School (North Central & U of M Accredited)
• Grades 9 - 12

DISTRICT PROGRAMS & OFFERINGS

Academic Letter Awards
RCTC - Vocational Programs
Gifted & Talented Program
Athletics
Child Care Services
Special Education Programs
Computer Education K - 12
Vocal & Instrumental Music Programs
Adult/Community Education Classes
Partnership Education Programs



MISSION STATEMENT

The Willow Run Community Schools believe that all students can learn. Our primary goal is to ensure students' attainment of goals and standards in all curricular areas. Further, we accept the responsibility of teaching all students so that they can attain their maximum educational potential, while fostering positive growth in social/emotional behaviors and attitudes.

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